

MEETING

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND LIBRARIES COMMITTEE

DATE AND TIME

WEDNESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER, 2019

AT 7.00 PM

VENUE

HENDON TOWN HALL, THE BURROUGHS, LONDON NW4 4BG

**TO: MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND LIBRARIES COMMITTEE
(Quorum 3)**

Chairman: Cllr Reuben Thompstone
Vice Chairman: Cllr Roberto Weeden-Sanz

Councillors

Helene Richman		
Charlie O-Macauley	Lacchya Bahadur Gurung	Brian Gordon
Reema Patel	Jennifer Grocock	
Sara Conway	Danny Rich	

In line with the Constitution's Public Participation and Engagement Rules, requests to submit public questions must be submitted by 10AM on the third working day before the date of the committee meeting. Therefore, the deadline for this meeting is **Friday 15 November at 10AM**. Requests must be submitted to Tracy Scollin Tel 020 8359 2315 tracy.scollin@barnet.gov.uk

**You are requested to attend the above meeting for which an agenda is attached.
Andrew Charlwood – Head of Governance**

Governance Services contact: Tracy Scollin 020 8359 2315
Media Relations Contact: Gareth Greene 020 8359 7039

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item No	Title of Report	Pages
1.	Minutes of last meeting	5 - 10
2.	Absence of Members (If any)	
3.	Declaration of Members' Disclosable Pecuniary interests and Non Pecuniary interests (If any)	
4.	Report of the Monitoring Officer (If any)	
5.	Members' Items (If any)	
6.	Public Questions (If any)	
7.	Armed Forces Covenant	11 - 28
8.	Q1 and Q2 Performance Report 2019/20	29 - 56
9.	MOPAC Blueprint for for whole systems approach to women in contact with the criminal justice system	
10.	Communities Together Network Report	57 - 68
11.	Forward Plan	69 - 72
12.	Any item(s) the Chairman decides are urgent	

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Decisions of the Community Leadership and Libraries Committee

11 June 2019

Members Present:-

AGENDA ITEM 1

Councillor Reuben Thompstone (Chairman)
Councillor Roberto Weeden-Sanz (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Reema Patel	Councillor Jennifer Grocock
Councillor Sara Conway	Councillor Brian Gordon
Councillor Lachhya Gurung	Councillor Helene Richman

Apologies for Absence

Councillor Charlie O-Macauley Councillor Danny Rich

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Chairman welcomed three new Members to the Committee: Cllr Weeden-Sanz, Cllr Gordon and Cllr Richman.

RESOLVED – the minutes of the meeting held on 7 March 2019 were approved as an accurate record.

2. ABSENCE OF MEMBERS (IF ANY)

Apologies were received from Cllr Danny Rich and Cllr Charlie O'Macauley.

3. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS (IF ANY)

None.

4. REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER (IF ANY)

None.

5. SELECTION OF NEW CLLC SUB COMMITTEE

The Chairman introduced the report from the Head of Governance.

The Chairman moved to the vote on the officer's recommendation:

That the Committee consider and make appointments to the CLLC Sub Committee as set out in Appendix A:

On 14 April 2015, the Community Leadership Committee resolved to set up a Sub-Committee:

“to be convened only for the purpose of receiving nominations and determining applications for buildings / land to be listed as an Asset of Community Value (Community Right to Bid) when there is no scheduled meeting of the full Committee which falls within the eight-week statutory deadline for determining applications. Membership of the Sub-

Committee is proposed to be the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Opposition Spokesperson, subject to this being reflective of the political balance of the Council. The Sub-Committee is to be effective from the Annual Council meeting on 13 May 2015 and will be incorporated into the report on the Appointment of Standing Committees and Political Proportionality”

Following appointment by Council, the new Community Leadership and Libraries Committee is requested to vote on the new Membership of the Sub-Committee. Nominations are as below:

Community Leadership and Libraries Sub-Committee - 3 Seats

(Membership to consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Opposition Spokespersons appointment by CLLC)

Conservative (2)	Labour (1)
1. Reuben Thompstone	1. Sara Conway
2. Roberto Weeden-Sanz	

Substitutes (3 Members to be drawn from either Party)

(Substitute Membership to consist of 3 Members to be drawn from either Party)

Conservative	Labour
1. Lachhya Gurung	1. Charlie O-Macauley
2. Helene Richman	2. Reema Patel
3. Jennifer Grocock	3. Danny Rich
4. Brian Gordon	

RESOLVED – the recommendation was unanimously approved.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS (IF ANY)

The Chairman proposed an amendment to the agenda order to avoid keeping waiting public speakers who had registered to comment and ask questions on Item 7. This was duly seconded.

CARRIED– the amendment was unanimously approved.

The Chairman referred to the addendum which listed all public comments and questions in order of receipt by the Governance Officer (with responses from officers). This had been published on the Barnet website prior to the meeting.

The Chairman invited public speakers to the table in the order of the Governance Officer’s receipt of their requests to comment at the meeting. He noted that a total of 30 minutes was allocated for this in accordance with the Constitution.

The following residents addressed the Committee:

Keith Martin, Barbara Jacobson, Tatiana Rodrigues, Ruth Kersley (on behalf of Irimi Rodis), Sia, Jennifer McCarthy (on behalf of Harriet Connides) and Mary Beer.

Cllr Anne Hutton also addressed the Committee on Item 7.

7. MEMBERS' ITEMS (IF ANY)

None.

8. EVALUATION OF NEW LIBRARY SERVICE MODEL

The Head of Libraries Service presented her report to the Committee.

The report set out a proposal for an independent evaluation of the new model library service which had been approved by Council on 4 April 2016.

Councillor Sara Conway moved an amendment to the Recommendations, which was seconded by Cllr Patel:

That the Committee add the following issues to the scope of the evaluation:

- Toilet access
- Library hygiene
- Personal safety and safeguarding
- Impact of reduced space on service users

This was unanimously approved.

CARRIED – the amendment was agreed.

Further to a discussion and Public Comments and Questions (above) the Chairman moved to the vote on the Substantive Recommendations:

1. That the Committee approve and comment on the proposed principles and scope of the evaluation of the library service.
 - 1.1 That the Committee add the following issues to the scope of the evaluation:
 - Toilet access
 - Library hygiene
 - Personal safety and safeguarding
 - Impact of reduced space on service users
2. That the Committee approve in principle, the appointment of an independent agency to conduct the evaluation and that delegated authority be provided to the Executive Director, Family Services to source, through procurement the appropriate provider, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee.

The Recommendations were unanimously **APPROVED**.

9. PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS & DOMESTIC ABUSE (VAWG & DA) - ANNUAL REPORT (2018/2019)

The Chairman invited to the table:

- Ms Kiran Vagarwal, Assistant Director of Community Safety and Regulatory Services
- Mr Ian Helcke, Housing Service Manager, Barnet Homes

Ms Vagarwal spoke to the report 'Preventing and Responding to Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and Domestic Abuse (DA) 2018-2019'. She noted that Barnet's VAWG Strategy sets out how the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership (BSCP) works to prevent and respond to Domestic Abuse (DA) and underlines the BSCP's commitment to working together to prevent all forms of VAWG.

A Member requested an update on the issue of modern day slavery and human trafficking. Ms Vagarwal would forward this to Committee Members following the meeting.

Action: Ms Vagarwal

A Member asked about the take-up of CommUNITY Barnet's initiative to provide training in healthy relationships (for trainers) which would begin in October. Ms Vagarwal would forward details to the Committee.

Action: Ms Vagarwal

It was noted that Mr Helcke is Lead for Domestic Violence in Barnet Homes' housing options service so is the main contact.

A Member asked for an update on the detection rates for VAWG and DA. Ms Vagarwal responded that the Metropolitan Police's Command Unit for Barnet, Harrow and Brent had put in place a Safeguarding Investigations Team which is working with uniformed colleagues on ways to identify gaps in detection. Also all incidents were reported to the Police Community Safety Unit. In addition a Detective Inspector had been allocated to Colindale Police station for oversight on DA.

Ms Vagarwal added that many community partners were aware of the Perpetrator Programme which focuses on behaviour change.

A Member enquired about the One Stop Shop; numbers had increased between 2016-18 so could a continued increase be managed? Mr Helcke noted that additional funding had been secured for a part-time role to support the One Stop Shop. This was currently being run by volunteers.

A Member asked about anti-social behaviour, drugs and safety on the streets of Barnet particularly at night. Ms Vagarwal noted that the Strategy focuses on preventing and responding to violence including a closer look at attitudes. Areas of ASB and other issues would become part of intervention when highlighted. The challenge as to not increase fear of crime. The Safer Communities Partnership Board (SCPB) could consider this, including the safety of transport at night for example. Ms Vagarwal would discuss this with her team.

Mr Helcke spoke to his presentation.

Barnet Homes (BH) has had a Domestic Violence Worker in its housing options service for several years and BH is engaged with specific actions to support the Strategy including delivering housing support and advice to victims of DV, as well as providing a Refuge.

A Member noted that the Prime Minister Rt Hon Theresa May MP had announced that local authorities would have a legal duty to house DV victims.

The Member enquired about the change in policy in relation to the 5-year residential connection to an area which had been a problem for some DV victims. Ms Vagarwal noted that there was new guidance for victims of domestic abuse in relation to housing allocation and some may want to live elsewhere.

A Member enquired about 'honour killings' and forced marriage. Ms Vagarwal responded that honour-based violence includes forced marriage and is part of the Strategy.

A Member asked about the high number of returning offenders to the One Stop Shop of around 33%. Did this mean they were not effective? Mr Helcke responded that there were few One Stop Shops across London and it was difficult to benchmark due to this; it seemed that many customers returned because all services were available in one place so they were often returning for different advice or another service than they had originally attended for.

10. END OF YEAR (EOY) 2018/19 COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND LIBRARIES PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Committee was asked to review the financial, performance and risk information for EOY 2018/19 and make any referrals to Policy and Resources Committee or Financial Performance and Contracts Committee in accordance with the terms of reference of these Committees.

Resolved – this was noted with no referrals.

11. PRESENTATION ON COMMUNITY COHESION CAMPAIGN

Will Cooper, Interim Community Engagement and Strategy Lead gave a presentation to the Committee on Barnet's Community Cohesion Programme 'Together we are Barnet'.

The year-long campaign was launched on 3 June and aimed to counter negative narratives and celebrate diversity as a positive social force that makes Barnet a better place to live.

There is a campaign hub on the Engage Barnet website: <https://engage.barnet.gov.uk/>

Staff would be promoting the campaign on 4th July at Brent Cross Shopping Centre.

Further to a motion resolved at Council, 18 December 2018, to instruct CLLC to consider ways of bringing residents together during the winter festive season, a WinterFaiths Festival would be held in 2019 in recognition that many faiths celebrate a festival at this time of year. This would include an externally funded Christmas market, carol services, Menorah lightings and community meals.

The Strategy Team would be working with Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector groups throughout the year to identify projects and events.

Proposals can be sent to strategy@barnet.gov.uk.

12. CLLC FORWARD PLAN

This was noted.

13. ANY ITEM(S) THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT

The meeting finished at 9.19 pm


Community Leadership & Libraries
20 November 2019

Title	Renewing the Armed Forces Covenant
Report of	Cllr Reuben Thompstone
Wards	All
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	Appendix 1 Barnet Council Action Plan Appendix 2 Approved Armed Forces Covenant
Officer Contact Details	Angela Richardson, angela.richardson@barnet.gov.uk , 020 8359 2179

Summary

The renewed Armed Forces Covenant was approved by Full Council on 29 October 2019. When approving Covenant, it was agreed that the Council should work towards achieving the gold Defence Employer Recognition Scheme accreditation. The Committee are requested to review and approve the Barnet Council Action Plan aimed at delivering the requirements of the Covenant and achieving accreditation.

Officers Recommendations

1. That the Committee agree the Barnet Council Action Plan at Appendix 1 to the report
2. That Officers be instructed to implement the Barnet Council Action Plan.

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 The Armed Forces Covenant was published by the secretary of state in May 2011. It sets out the moral obligation between the Nation, the Government and the Armed Forces.
- 1.2 Barnet signed the original Armed Forces Covenant on 1st July 2012.
- 1.3 'Renewing the Covenant in the Capital' is a project that has been developed to help improve the understanding and delivery of the Armed Forces Covenant across the London Boroughs and the City of London.
- 1.4 It is in response to concerns that since it was signed, deployments and staff changes had led to a reduced understanding and visibility of the Covenant in London Boroughs and their military communities.
- 1.5 The project gives an opportunity and a platform for Boroughs to demonstrate their commitment, share best practice and adopt new approaches from across the country that may be applicable in London.
- 1.6 Council agreed the updated Armed Forces Covenant at their meeting on 29 October 2019. Council resolved that "...a report will be presented to the Community Leadership and Libraries Committee on monitoring delivery of the associated Action Plan."

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To ensure Barnet Council policies have been adjusted to suit the Covenant and are accessible by all through dedicated council web pages.
- 2.2 Make frontline staff aware of the Covenant and how to best signpost those in need.
- 2.3 Establish an Armed Forces network between councils, military units and service providers to share knowledge.
- 2.4 Increase awareness of the Covenant within the Council and its partners, military units and service families.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

3.1 None.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 The Council will deliver training to services in a range of areas to enable staff to support the Armed Forces Community and be aware of their specific issues and needs.

4.2 The Council will work towards receiving the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme accreditation to attain an employer's silver then gold award once the criteria have been met.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

5.1.1 The agreement of the Barnet Action Plan in relation to renewing of the Armed Forces Covenant in Barnet would contribute to the delivery of all corporate priorities and objectives.

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

5.2.1 Staff time from various different services will be delivered within the existing budgets.

5.3 Social Value

5.3.1 The aim of the Community Covenant is to encourage local communities to support the Service community in their area and nurture understanding and awareness amongst the public of issues affecting the Armed Forces community.

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

5.4.1 Council approved the original Covenant in 2012. Given the significant and cross-cutting nature of the Covenant, it was determined that Full Council approval was required as it is a matter which is so significant that it requires all Members to determine (Council Constitution, Article 4 (The Full Council)).

5.4.2 Council Constitution, Article 7 – the Community Leadership & Libraries Committee has responsibility for "...libraries, culture, civic events, the mayoralty, community safety, registration and nationality service."

5.5 Risk Management

5.5.1 If the armed forces community are not supported this could have negative impact and carries a reputational risk to the council.

5.5.2 If there is a low take up of training to frontline staff this may impact the service delivery to the Armed Forces Community.

5.6 **Equalities and Diversity**

5.6.1 Recognising the Armed Forces Community in relevant service area considerations and policies will ensure inclusion without prejudice.

5.6.2 The Armed Forces Covenant recognises that the whole nation has a moral obligation to members of the Armed Forces and their families and it establishes how they should expect to be treated. It exists to redress the disadvantages that the Armed Forces Community faces in comparison to other citizens, and to recognise sacrifices made.

5.6.3 In some cases this will require special consideration, especially for those who have given the most such as the injured and the bereaved. The principle behind the Covenant is that the Armed Forces Community should not face disadvantage because of its military experience. The Covenant covers issues from housing and education to support after Service, and in it veterans have great importance.

5.7 **Corporate Parenting**

5.7.1 Implementing the action plan allows measures to be put in place to support the needs of children of serving Armed Forces members and their families.

5.8 **Consultation and Engagement**

5.8.1 Consultation with the Project Manager for the Renewing of the Armed Forces Covenant at a meeting held in June 2019 with Armed Forces Champion, Leader, Senior Staff and partners.

5.8.2 Engagement between the Barnet Armed Forces Champion and the Project Manager for the Renewing of the Armed Forces Covenant for delivery of training to upskill senior staff and frontline staff.

5.9 **Insight**

5.9.1 A review of Council Policy Best Practice document and other London Boroughs commitments to the Armed Forces Covenant.

6. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

6.1 A guide for local authorities

6.2 Letter to the Leader

6.3 Council Policy Best Practice Document

- 6.4 Council, 29 October 2019, Agenda Item 12.3, Report of the Head of Governance -
Renewing the Armed Forces Covenant:
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=162&MId=9953>



THE LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET



AN ARMED FORCES COVENANT

BETWEEN

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET COUNCIL,
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HEALTH, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT,
HOUSING, MULTI-FAITH AND VOLUNTARY SECTORS IN BARNET

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EMERGENCY SERVICES

AND

THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY IN BARNET

SECTION 1: Definition of the Armed Forces Community

The Armed Forces Community is defined, for the purposes of the Armed Forces Covenant, as including all those towards whom the Nation has a moral obligation due to service in HM Armed Forces. The Armed Forces Community includes:

- **Regular Personnel** – Individuals currently serving as members of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines, Army or Royal Air Force.
- **Reservists** – Volunteer Reservists serving as members of the Royal Navy, Royal Marines, Army Reserves or Royal Air Force Reserves.
- **Veterans** – Those who have served in HM Armed Forces, whether Regular or Reservist.
- **Cadet Force Adult Volunteers** – Adult Volunteers currently volunteering in the Sea Cadet Corps, Army Cadet Force or Royal Air Force Air Cadets
- **Families of Regular, Reservists and Veterans** – Those who have served in HM Armed Forces, whether as a Regular or a Reservist.
- **Bereaved** – The immediate family of Service Personnel and Veterans who have died, whether or not that death has any connection with service.

SECTION 2: PRINCIPLES OF THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT

The Armed Forces Covenant is a voluntary statement of mutual support between a civilian community and its local Armed Forces Community. This Covenant encompasses the moral obligation between the Nation, the Government and the Armed Forces, at the local level.

We, The London Borough of Barnet, will endeavour to uphold the key principles of the Armed Forces Covenant which are:

- The Armed Forces Community should not face disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services.
- Special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given most such as the injured and the bereaved.

The purpose of this Covenant is to encourage support for the Armed Forces Community working and residing in Barnet and to recognise and remember the sacrifices made by members of this Armed Forces Community, particularly those who have given the most. This includes in-Service and ex-Service personnel their families and widow(er)s in Barnet.

For Barnet Council and partner organisations, the Covenant presents an opportunity to bring their knowledge, experience and expertise to bear on the provision of help and advice to members of the Armed Forces Community.

For the Armed Forces community, the Covenant encourages the integration of Service life into civilian life and encourages members of the Armed Forces community to help their local community.

SECTION 3: AIMS OF THE COVENANT

The Armed Forces Covenant aims to encourage all parties within a community to offer support to the local Armed Forces Community and make it easier for Service personnel, families and veterans to access the help and support available from the Ministry of Defence (MoD), from statutory providers and from the Charitable and Voluntary Sector. These organisations already work together in partnership at local level.

The scheme is intended to be a two-way arrangement and the Armed Forces community are encouraged to do as much as they can to support their community and promote activity which integrates the Service community into civilian life.

SECTION 4: OUR COMMITMENT

- **Demonstrating we are an Armed Forces-friendly organisation by:**
 - Publicising our Armed forces Covenant and displaying the Armed Forces Covenant logo on our website.
 - Promoting a greater understanding and awareness of the issues affecting the Armed Forces Community within the borough.
 - Proactively encouraging companies and other organisations to sign Covenants.
 - Engaging with our partners in the private, public and voluntary sectors to identify opportunities to fulfil the objectives of the covenant.
 - Promoting public awareness of the Armed Forces through our website.
- **Strengthening our links with the Armed Forces Community by:**
 - Appointing an Armed Forces Member Champion and Senior Officer point of contact within the Council to ensure our commitments are implemented and maintained.
 - Ensuring staff and elected Members are made aware of the Armed Forces Covenant for Barnet as part of their induction.
 - Offering support to our local cadet units.
 - Considering the needs of the Armed Forces Community as part of the wider Barnet community in future service and infrastructure planning.
- **Seeking to support the employment of veterans and service leavers**
 - Recognising that the Armed Forces Community bring a variety of transferable skills and qualities developed through their military careers when interviewing for positions.
 - Ensuring our recruitment process is inclusive and accessible.
 - Anticipating and providing reasonable adjustments as required.
- **Striving to support the families of the Armed Forces Community by:**
 - Agreeing to offer a degree of flexibility in granting leave for Service spouses and partners before, during and after a partner's deployment.
 - Ensure that school admission policies recognise the needs of children of the Armed Forces Community
- **Seeking to support our employees who choose to be members of the Reserve Forces or Cadet Force Adult Volunteers.**
 - By accommodating their training and deployment where practical.
 - We will, wherever possible, accommodate the mobilisation of our reservists if they are required to deploy.
 - Serving Armed Forces Reservists and Cadet Force Adult Volunteers are supported with 10 days' additional paid leave to carry out training.
 - We will encourage any reservists in our organisation to participate in Reserves Day
- **Ensuring support is given to members of the Armed Forces Community with urgent housing needs.**
 - That Armed Forces members and their families who have a link with the London Borough of Barnet will be recognised in housing allocations policies.
- **Recognising and remembering the sacrifices made by the Armed Forces Community by:**
 - Flying the Armed Forces Day Flag.
 - Where possible, arrange a Barnet Borough Armed Forces Day Parade.
 - Supporting other Armed Forces events in the local community.
 - Posting messages of support on social media sites and linking to relevant websites.
 - Mindfully recognising and remembering the contribution and sacrifices made by British and Commonwealth military and civilian service men and women who have been affected by armed conflict by supporting Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day.
 - Facilitating post operational home-coming parades
 - Supporting the Armed Forces who have been bestowed the Freedom of the Borough to exercise their Freedom in the borough.

We, the undersigned, agree to work and act together to honour the Armed Forces Covenant.

Signatories

Signed:

Councillor Caroline Stock

The Worshipful the Mayor
of the London Borough of Barnet

Signed:

xxxxxxxxxx

xxxxxxx
On behalf of the Armed Forces Community

Signed:

Councillor Daniel Thomas

Leader of the Council
of the London Borough of Barnet

Signed:

xxxxxxxxxx

Chief Executive RFCA Greater London
On behalf of the Reserve Forces
and Cadet Community

Signed:

Mr John Hooton

Chief Executive
Barnet Council

Signed:

xxxxxxx

Chief Executive
Barnet Homes
On behalf of the Housing Sector

Signed:

Xxxxxxxxxx

Xxxxxxxxxx
On behalf of the Health Service Community

Signed:

xxxxxxx

xxxxxxxxxxx
On behalf of the Employment Sector

Signed:

Xxxxxxxxxxx

Middlesex University
On behalf of Education in Barnet

Signed:

xxxxxxx

Barnet and Southgate College
On behalf of Education in Barnet:

Signed:

Xxxxxxxxxx

Borough Commander
On behalf of the Metropolitan Police

Signed:

Mr Steve Leader

Borough Commander
On behalf of the London Fire Brigade

Signed:

Mrs Julie Pal

On behalf of the Voluntary and Community Sector

Signed:

Esmond Rosen

Chief Executive
On behalf of the Multi-Faith Community

Dated this xxxxxx day of xxxxx 2019



CONTACTS

MOD Armed Forces Covenant Team

Email address: covenant-mailbox@mod.gov.uk
Address: Armed Forces Covenant Team
Zone A, 6th Floor
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2HB

London Borough of Barnet Council

Contact Name: Councillor Lachhya Gurung
Title: Council Member Armed Forces Champion
Email: cldr.l.gurung@barnet.gov.uk

Contact Name: Angela Richardson
Title: Council Armed Forces Champion
Telephone: 020 8359 2179
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Town Hall,
The Burroughs,
Hendon, London
NW4 4BG

THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT



An Enduring Covenant Between

The People of the United Kingdom
Her Majesty's Government

– and –

All those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces of
the Crown

And their Families

The first duty of Government is the defence of the realm. Our Armed Forces fulfil that responsibility on behalf of the Government, sacrificing some civilian freedoms, facing danger and, sometimes, suffering serious injury or death as a result of their duty. Families also play a vital role in supporting the operational effectiveness of our Armed Forces. In return, the whole nation has a moral obligation to the members of the Naval Service, the Army and the Royal Air Force, together with their families. They deserve our respect and support, and fair treatment.

Those who serve in the Armed Forces, whether Regular or Reserve, those who have served in the past, and their families, should face no disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services. Special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given most such as the injured and the bereaved.

This obligation involves the whole of society: it includes voluntary and charitable bodies, private organisations, and the actions of individuals in supporting the Armed Forces. Recognising those who have performed military duty unites the country and demonstrates the value of their contribution. This has no greater expression than in upholding this Covenant.

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London Borough of Barnet Action Plan: Renewing the Covenant in the Capital

Aim

To train and prepare staff to enable the Borough Council to meet its Armed Forces Covenant obligations:

Objectives

- To ensure all policies are reviewed and adjusted accordingly to deliver our commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant (AFC)
- To deliver a training programme for managers and Armed Forces Champions in the Council, specifically those who have responsibility for main Covenant policy areas
- To deliver ongoing awareness training to all frontline staff and Councillors to enable them to 'ask the question' when engaging with residents
- To establish an AFC partnership meeting with relevant stakeholders
- To renew our commitment to the Armed Forces Community by re-signing the AFC

Benefits


- Public awareness of the commitment / support provided by the council to an under-represented community group (~10-15% of the population)
- Continuous Professional Development for staff
- Reduced (or at the very least, shared) burden of service provision through use of support pathways and external providers
- Improved customer satisfaction through knowledgeable customer service of how to support / signpost Armed Forces community (via training, e-learning and signposting app).
- Gain a better understanding of local demographics by staff regularly "asking the question" and recording how many of this community are accessing services.
- Improved visibility and reputation as a 'forces friendly' employer through the Employer Recognition Scheme. Gain benefits of employing service leavers and reservists.
- Use of Armed Forces Covenant Grants to support the community and reduce spending requirements on Council.
- Closer partnership working with neighbouring Boroughs and military stakeholders to potentially reduce burden of support and avoid duplication of effort on events or community initiatives.

Timeline

Date	Action	Description	Stakeholders	Comments
ASAP	Armed Forces Champion Approval	Discussion with Project Manager and Council Armed Forces Champion to look at military footprint, local need, what project can deliver and benefits to council	Neil Osborne (Project Manager) Council Armed Forces Champion	Completed 04/04/19 AR
+ 1 week	Approval	Project approved/rejected	Council Armed Forces Champion	Approved 04/04/19
+ 1-2 months	Meet with Senior Managers to outline the proposal in more detail	Discuss in more detail how to deliver this initiative across the council. Discussions to include policy reviews, training of both senior managers and frontline staff, installation of e-learning package, establishment of partnership meetings and re-signing AFC	Neil Osborne (Project Manager) Council Armed Forces Champion Councillor Armed Forces Champion Chief Executive Officer Leader of the Council Council Policy Lead Council Training Lead Council Communications Lead	Completed 06/06/19 at Hendon Town Hall Attendance by Angela Richardson – Council AFChampion Andrew Charlwood - Governance Gareth Greene-Comms Leader Cllr Dan Thomas Cllr Lachhya Gurung – Councillor AFChampion Julie Pal – Community Barnet Steve Shaw – NHS Barnet Hosp Jamie Smith – Middx Uni Kate Laffan – Barnet Homes
+ 3-5 months	Deliver senior training	Deliver two-hour training to Armed Forces Champions, senior staff, department leads and line managers to upskill them on the AFC, the unique needs / issues of Armed Forces	Neil Osborne (Project Manager) Council Armed Forces Champion Councillor Armed Forces Champion Extended Leadership Team	To be delivered on 04/11/19

		Community and how their staff can support.	Line Management Team	
+ 4-6-months	Deliver frontline staff training	Hold multiple 1-hour training events to upskill as many frontline staff as possible.	Neil Usborne (Project Manager) Frontline Staff	To be arranged
+ 6-8 months	Launch e-learning package	Install e-learning package into Learning Management System, roll out to frontline staff who interact directly with residents and then wider council staff for awareness	Neil Usborne (Project Manager) Council Training Lead	
Any time	Review Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) Status	Review status of council as an employer from Armed Forces Community. As a signatory of AFC you can self-nominate for Bronze ERS Award via Greater London Reserve Forces and Cadet Association (GL RFCA). If already held, review next steps to progress to Silver / Gold. Presentation of award to CEO / Councillors can be arranged	Council Armed Forces Champion Neil Usborne (Project Manager) GL RFCA	
+ 6 months	Re-sign AFC	Organise a re-signing of AFC by council with local Military Leaders with a renewed and developed action plan in place to publically deliver that commitment Potential to combine with presentation of ERS Award	Neil Usborne (Project Manager) Council Armed Forces Champion Councillor Armed Forces Champion Senior Management Team Mayor Partners Council Communications Lead HQ London District (Army) Local Military Units GL RFCA Local military partners / charities	
+ 9-12 months (and ongoing)	AFC Partnership Meeting	Partnership meeting to be facilitated by Project Manager to: i. Review council commitment to AFC ii. Understand any issues raised since start of initiative iii. Discuss best practice with partner organisations	Neil Usborne (Project Manager) Council Armed Forces Champion Councillor Armed Forces Champion HQ London District (Army) Local Military Units Partner Organisations	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iv. Plan and deconflict events with local military units / neighbouring Borough Councils v. Build relationships for collaborative working <p>Standing agenda to be provided to ensure continuity and consistency for future meetings</p>		
Ongoing	Sustainable awareness training	<p>Embed e-learning package into new joiners routine and regular annual online training</p> <p>Frontline staff training package to be provided by for service heads / line managers / Armed Forces Champion to be able to deliver to staff on an ongoing basis</p>	Neil Usborne (Project Manager) Council Armed Forces Champion Training Lead	

	<p style="text-align: center;">Community Leadership & Libraries Committee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FOR INFORMATION</p>
Title	Quarter 1 (Q1) 2019/20 Delivery Plan Performance Report
Report of	Councillor Reuben Thompstone – Committee Chairman
Wards	All
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	None
Officer Contact Details	<p>John Hickson, Interim Finance Business Partner john.hickson@barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>Alaine Clarke, Head of Programmes, Performance and Risk alaine.clarke@barnet.gov.uk</p>

Summary

This report provides a thematic overview of performance for Q1 2019/20 focusing on the budget forecasts and activities to deliver both corporate and committee priorities in the CLL Committee Annual Delivery Plan.

Officer Recommendations

- The Committee is asked to review the budget, performance and risk information for Q1 2019/20 and make any referrals to Policy and Resources Committee or Financial Performance and Contracts Committee in accordance with the terms of reference of these Committees.**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Community Leadership and Libraries Committee has responsibility for libraries, culture, civic events, the mayoralty, community safety, community engagement and cohesion, registration and nationality service and grants to the voluntary sector.
- 1.2 This report provides a **thematic overview of performance** for **Q1 2019/20** focusing on the budget forecasts and activities to deliver the **priorities** in the **CLL Committee Annual Delivery Plan**, which can be found online at:
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=694&MId=9610&Ver=4>

2. BUDGET FORECASTS

- 2.1 The **Revenue Forecast** (after reserve movements) Community Safety is £1.961m and for Libraries and Community Engagement is £3.583m (see table 2).

Table 2: Revenue Forecast (Q1 2019/20)

Service	Revised Budget	Q1 19/20 Forecast	Variance from Revised Budget Adv/(fav)	Reserve Move-ments	Q1 19/20 Forecast after Reserve Move-ments	Variance after Reserve Move-ments Adv/(fav)
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Community Safety	1,936	1,961	25	0	1,961	25
Libraries and Community Engagement	3,538	3,583	45	0	3,583	45

- 2.2 Community Safety underspent by £0.025m. The main underspend was on Domestic Violence Commissioning due to reduced costs on demand led services.
- 2.3 Libraries and Community Engagement is forecasted to overspend by £0.045m due principally to rate increases at Colindale and Church End Library which collectively add up to £0.090m. This has been partially offset by reductions in spend against the media fund totalling £0.024m and vacancies held in the team totalling £0.019m.

3. SAVINGS

- 3.1 Savings achieved; the capital contribution ceased in 2018/19

Table 3: Savings forecast delivery (Q1 2019/20)

Ref	Service area	Description of Savings	Savings for 19/20	Q1 19/20 Forecast	Comment
S1	Community Safety	CCTV: Reduce expenditure associated with CCTV once the capital contribution towards investment has been paid off.	243	243	The capital contribution ceased in 18/19
Total			243	243	

4. PRIORITIES

4.1 This section provides an update on the Committee's priorities as follows:

- A summary of progress on Actions¹ to deliver the priority
- Performance of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)²
- Risks to delivering the actions and priority
- High (15 to 25) level risks from the Corporate Risk Register³

4.2 The Q1 performance for each of the Committee's priorities is shown in table 4. This reflects the *overall performance on Actions, KPIs and Risks*⁴ for each priority.

Table 4: Priorities for CLL Committee

Section	Priority	Q1 Overall Performance
5.	Keeping Barnet safe	Satisfactory
6.	Tackling anti-social behaviour and environmental crime	Satisfactory
7.	Celebrating diverse and strong communities and taking a zero-tolerance approach to hate crime	Good
8.	Focusing on the strengths of the community	Satisfactory
9.	Continuing to maximise access to libraries through a technology and digitally enabled service	Satisfactory

Section	Priority	Q1 Overall Performance
5.	Keeping Barnet safe	Satisfactory

5.1 Summary of Actions Satisfactory progress

5.1.1 Barnet's approach to anti-social behaviour (ASB) puts victims at the heart of the response and delivers enhanced multi-agency interventions to bring relief to neighbourhoods suffering from persistent and complex ASB problems. This work is facilitated and driven through the Community Safety MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Case Conference), which meets regularly to review the most persistent and complex ASB cases. In Q1, the CS MARAC co-ordinated interventions across 19 new ASB cases and over 40 existing ASB cases.

5.1.2 The Barnet Safer Communities Partnership has invested in the OWL (Online Watch Link) system to help keep the community safe and updated with the latest crime prevention advice from the Police and Neighbourhood Watch. In Q1, over 20,000 people in Barnet

¹ A Summary of the Actions is provided for each priority. These are RAG rated as follows: Complete or Good progress = GREEN (where no Actions RAG rated RED); Satisfactory progress = AMBER (where no more than one Action RAG rated RED) or Limited progress = RED (where two or more Actions RAG rated RED).

² KPI RAG rating reflects the percentage variance of the result against the target as follows: On target = GREEN (G); Up to 9.9% off target = AMBER (A); 10% or more off target = RED (R). The Direction of Travel (DOT) status shows the percentage variation in the result since last year e.g. Improving (↑ I), Worsening (↓ W) or Same (→ S). The percentage variation is calculated as follows: Q1 19/20 result minus Q1 18/19 result equals difference; then difference divided by Q1 18/19 result multiplied by 100 = percentage variation. Any results not for Q1 19/20 are illustrated by (s) snapshot at end of year or (r) rolling 12 months.

³ The Corporate Risk Register includes strategic risks (strategic and business critical risks) and high (15 to 25) service/joint risks (service and contract delivery risks). All risks are managed in line with the council's risk management framework. The risk registers are live documents and the Q1 19/20 Corporate Risk Register provides a snapshot in time (as at end June 2019). The risk ratings are: Low = 1 to 3 (GREEN); Medium/Low = 4 to 6 (YELLOW); Medium/High = 8 to 12 (AMBER); and High = 15 to 25 (RED).

⁴ The Overall Performance reflects Actions, KPIs and Risks as follows: Complete or Good progress = GREEN (where no Actions or KPIs RAG rated RED and no more than one high level risk); Satisfactory progress = AMBER (where no more than one Action or KPIs RAG rated RED and/or no more than two high level risks) or Limited progress = RED (where two or more Actions or KPIs RAG rated RED and/or more than two high level risks).

were signed up to OWL and linked to over 2,700 Neighbourhood Watches across the borough.

5.2 KPIs

5.2.1 There are four KPIs for this priority, which monitor crime and ASB. One KPI met the Q1 target. Three KPIs are Monitor only. One KPI has worsened since last year.

- **Overall crime rate in Barnet – 77.0 compared to 70.4 last year.** Whilst overall crime has increased in Barnet, this is in line with other London Boroughs. Barnet remains the 9th lowest London Borough for overall crime and has the 2nd lowest rate of violent crime in the capital.

Indicator	Polarity	18/19 EOY	19/20 Target	Q1 19/20			Q1 18/19	Benchmarking
				Target	Result	DOT	Result	
Complex repeat ASB cases to be problem solved through Community Safety MARAC	Bigger is better	New for 19/20	30	7	19 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Residents signed up to OWL	Bigger is better	New for 19/20	TBC ⁵	Monitor	22789	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Overall crime rate in Barnet (total notifiable offences) (r)	Smaller is Better	74.12 ⁶	Monitor	Monitor	77.0 ⁷	↓ W +9.4 %	70.4 ⁸	London 95.0 (Jul 18 - Jun 19, Met Police)
Overall rate of burglary in Barnet	Smaller is Better	New for 19/20	Monitor	Monitor	27	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	London 24.7 (Jul 18 - Jun 19, Met Police)

5.3 Risks

5.3.1 There are two risks to delivery of the actions for this priority. These have been assessed at a low (1 to 3) and medium/high (8 to 12) level and have controls/mitigations in place to manage the risks.

- **CLL01 - Missed opportunities for early intervention (risk score 9).** A multi-agency secure information sharing system (ECINS) is in place to ensure timely sharing of information on ASB cases; and the Community Safety MARAC provides multi-agency oversight on behalf of the Safer Communities Partnerships Board. In addition, a new Information Sharing Agreement is being developed.
- **CLL02 - Under-utilisation of OWL system (risk score 3).** Lack of effective multi-agency oversight could lead to under-utilisation of the OWL system resulting in loss of interest by residents as a source of information on crime prevention and the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership. The OWL system has been promoted across the Safer Communities Partnership and feedback has been positive, with high participation.

⁵ % increase on 2018/19

⁶ Rolling 12 months to February 2019.

⁷ Rolling 12 months to June 2019

⁸ Rolling 12 months to May 2018

6. Tackling anti-social behaviour and environmental crime

Q1
Overall Performance
Satisfactory

6.1 Summary of Actions **Satisfactory progress**

6.1.1 The proportionate use of Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) are part of Barnet's approach to tackling ASB. They are implemented alongside a range of multi-agency interventions to bring relief to neighbourhoods suffering from persistent and complex ASB problems. There are four PSPOs in place. The Barnet Safer Communities Partnership works with the Community Safety MARAC and JTAG (Joint Tasking and Action Group), which focuses on location based ASB issues.

6.2 KPIs

6.2.1 There are four KPIs for this priority, which monitor ASB. Two KPIs met the Q1 targets. One KPI is annual and will be reported in Q4. One KPI did not meet the Q1 target.

- **Volume of ASB calls to police – 8893 compared to 7855 last year.** There was a 10% increase in ASB calls to the Police in the 12 months up to June 2019. Overall London saw an average 5% increase. This increase has come after a number of year on year reductions, with the number of ASB reports still substantially lower than five years ago where the number of ASB calls to police was 12,244.

Indicator	Polarity	18/19 EOY	19/20 Target	Q1 19/20			Q1 18/19 Result	Benchmarking
				Target	Result	DOT		
PSPOs implemented	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	3	3	4 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Volume of ASB calls to police	Smaller is Better	New for 19/20	7855 ⁹	7855	8893 ¹⁰ (R)	↓ W +10%	8078	No benchmark available
Multi-agency action plans in place to address high impact ASB and environmental crime areas	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	6	2	4 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Community engagement and communication campaigns delivered per year (Annual)	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	2	2	Due Q4 19/20	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available

6.3 Risks

6.3.1 There are three risks to delivery of the actions for this priority. These have been assessed at a medium/low (4 to 6) and medium/high (8 to 12) level and have controls/mitigations in place to manage the risks.

⁹ A 5% reduction vs. 2017/18 baseline of 8,268 calls.

¹⁰ Rolling 12 months to June 2019.

- **CLL03 – Challenges to Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) (risk score 8).** A range of options are used to respond to emerging place based ASB issues, with a PSPO considered only after other options have been used and the issues persist. Oversight is provided by the Community Safety MARAC, Joint Tasking Group (JTAG) and the ASB Delivery Group. Extensive public consultation is carried out before implementing a PSPO.
- **CLL04 - Ineffective enforcement of PSPOs (risk score 6).** Multi-agency oversight of partnership activity is provided by JTAG and the ASB Delivery Group. This includes regular reviews of enforcement activity where PSPOs are in place.
- **CLL05 – Ineffective community engagement (risk score 6).** To ensure resources are targeted in areas with the most persistent and severe ASB, analysis is undertaken to join-up information across the Safer Communities Partnership. A Community Safety Strategic Assessment is being undertaken to analyse ASB patterns and trends and will be used to inform the refresh of the Community Safety Strategy. JTAG provides multi-agency oversight of ASB related analysis.

7. Celebrating diverse and strong communities and taking a zero-tolerance approach to hate crime	Q1 Overall Performance
	Good

7.1 Summary of Actions Good progress

- 7.1.1 The Barnet Zero Tolerance to Hate Crime Project is part of the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership’s commitment to working together to improve access to justice for victims of Hate Crime and making it easier for people to report Hate Crime and get the support they need. The project has been supported with funding secured from MOPAC and brings together the council, Police, Barnet Mencap and other VCS partners to increase the profile and reach of Barnet’s Hate Crime Reporting Centres.
- 7.1.2 The nine Hate Crime Reporting Centres are spread across the borough at Barnet Homes, Your Choice Barnet, Barnet Mencap, Inclusion Barnet, Community Barnet, GALOP, Hft, Homeless Action Barnet and Community Security Trust. The Hate Crime Awareness Co-ordinator has created a point of contact for all Reporting Centres and VCS partners to come together to share information and resources, establish reporting procedures and referral pathways and provide a co-ordinated support service to victims and witnesses of Hate Crime. There is ongoing work to increase the number of Reporting Centres and encourage more residents to become Hate Crime Reporting Champions.
- 7.1.3 The council launched phase one of its *Together, we are Barnet* campaign in June 2019. Led by Strategy and Communications and supported by strategic partners, this campaign is designed to promote community cohesion and celebrate diversity as a positive social force that makes Barnet a better place to live. The campaign features the real residents of Barnet, people who are part of groups/organisations that are united through common interests and purposes. By highlighting these case studies, the campaign counters negative narratives by showing how people from all walks of life live peacefully alongside each other.
- 7.1.4 A total of 53 bus shelter panels and 200 high street posters were displayed for eight weeks. An online hub for the campaign was also developed, attracting an average of 77 visitors a day. As well as featuring videos and text about the case study groups, the hub also enables residents to upload photos of themselves. These will be used to create a montage artwork showing the many ‘faces of Barnet’.

7.1.5 The Communities Together Network (CTN) is Barnet's forum for the council, Police, CCG and VCS to share information on issues relating to community participation, cohesion and safety. The theme this year is to promote Strong, Successful and Resilient Communities. A CTN meeting was held on 6 June at Unitas, Barnet's Youth Zone, focused on how community groups can help provide support in emergency situations.

7.1.6 A first digital version of the CTN Bulletin was emailed to 862 recipients on 24 May 2019. To further share information and activities with the VCS, a closed Facebook platform was launched on 17 June 2019 and has 117 active members.

7.2 KPIs

7.2.1 There are seven KPIs for this priority, which monitor hate crime. Four KPIs met the Q1 targets. Two KPIs did not meet the targets. One KPI is Monitor only and has worsened since last year.

- **Racist and religious hate crime – 774 hate crimes were reported** in the 12 months up to June 2019 compared to 719 last year. Hate Crime is considered to be under-reported and the Safer Communities Partnership continues to undertake communications campaigns to encourage reporting.
- **Hate Crime Reporting Centres (RAG rated AMBER) – 9 against a target of 10 Hate Crime Reporting Centres to be open at any time in Barnet.** In Q1, the target was slightly missed but the Barnet Zero Tolerance to Hate Crime Project plans to launch five new Hate Crime Reporting Centres this year.
- **Number of staff to receive training across the partnership (RAG rated RED) – 4 against a target of 25.** Since 2017 to date the Barnet Zero Tolerance to Hate Crime project has trained over 120 staff. While the number of staff to be trained in Q1 was low, the project is planning to train over 100 staff in 2019/20.

Indicator	Polarity	18/19 EOY	19/20 Target	Q1 19/20			Q1 18/19	Benchmarking
				Target	Result	DOT	Result	
Racist and religious hate crime (r)	Smaller is Better	729 ¹¹	Monitor	Monitor	774	↓ W +7.6%	719	No benchmark available
Hate Crime Reporting Centres in Barnet	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	10 ¹²	10	9 (A)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Residents signed up as Hate Crime Awareness Champions	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	50	12	12 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Training sessions delivered across the partnership	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	10	2	2 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available

¹¹ Rolling 12 months to February 2019.

¹² The target is for minimum of 10 Hate Crime Reporting Centres to be in operation at any one time.

Indicator	Polarity	18/19 EOY	19/20 Target	Q1 19/20			Q1 18/19	Benchmarking
				Target	Result	DOT	Result	
Number of staff to receive training across the partnership	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	100	25	4 (R)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Number of Hate Crime Awareness workshops delivered	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	5	2	3 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Number of CTN meetings held per year	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	4	1	1 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available

7.3 Risks

7.3.1 There are two risks to delivery of the actions for this priority. These have been assessed at a medium/high (8 to 12) level and have controls/mitigations in place to manage the risks.

- **CLL06 – Lack of consistent communication (risk score 12).** Actions are planned throughout the year to encourage the reporting of hate crime. The Zero Tolerance to Hate Crime Project reports every six months to the Safer Communities Partnership Board
- **CLL07 - Hate Crime awareness training programme (risk score 8).** A failure across the partnership to give sufficient priority to engaging with the Hate Crime Awareness training programme could limit its effectiveness and harm the ability of the partnership to provide a co-ordinated response to Hate Crime. Training attendance is monitored and reported every six months to the Safer Communities Partnership Board. A report is being prepared for CLL Committee with an update on the delivery of the Zero Tolerate to Hate Crime Project, which will include recommendations for next steps.

8. Focusing on the strengths of the community	Q1 Overall Performance
	Satisfactory

8.1 Summary of Actions Satisfactory progress

8.1.1 Since contracts were awarded to Volunteering Barnet in August 2017 and Inclusion Barnet in November 2018, one-to-one sessions and workshops have been delivered to support the VCS sector. Work has progressed with Founders Fair, Employer Support Volunteering, and Volunteer Week to engage and increase the number of volunteers. Volunteering opportunities have been promoted through a variety of outreach events, social media, Facebook and through the CTN.

8.2 KPIs

8.2.1 There are five KPIs for this priority, which monitor community engagement. Three KPIs met the Q1 targets. Two KPIs are annual and will be reported as part of the Residents' Perception Survey in Q3.

Indicator	Polarity	18/19 EOY	19/20 Target	Q1 19/20			Q1 18/19	Benchmarking
				Target	Result	DOT	Result	
Residents who agree that people pull together to help improve the area (Annual ¹³)	Bigger is Better	51% (Autumn 17)	54%	54%	Due Q3 19/20	No RPS 18/19	No RPS 18/19	No benchmark available
Number of hours of 121 surgeries	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	36	9	9 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Number of Funders Fairs	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	2	1	1 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Residents who volunteer at least once a month (Annual ¹⁴)	Bigger is Better	30 (Autumn 17)	33%	33%	Due Q3 19/20	No RPS 18/19	No RPS 18/19	No benchmark available
Number of new residents registering to be a volunteer	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	750	187	218 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available

8.3 Risks

8.3.1 There are two risks to delivery of the actions for this priority. These have been assessed at a medium/high (8 to 12) level and have controls/mitigations in place to manage the risks.

- **G&C050 - Availability of resources to the voluntary sector (risk score 9).** The voluntary sector is supported through partnership activity. Strategic plans have been aligned where possible and regular Partnership Board meetings are held to discuss activities.
- **G&CS051 - Working with the Voluntary Community Faith Sector (VCFS) (risk score 9).** If working relationships across the partnership are not effective it could affect the efficacy of the support received from the VCSF sector. As above, strategic plans have been aligned where possible and regular Partnership Board meetings are held discuss activities. A lead officer has been appointed to focus on strengthening partnerships with the VCFS.

9. Continuing to maximise access to libraries through a technology and digitally enabled service	Q1 Overall Performance
	Satisfactory

9.1 Summary of Actions Satisfactory progress

9.1.1 A number of activities have taken place to promote awareness and take-up of the Library Service and the breadth of services on offer. During the **Barnet Libraries Year of Learning** over 1,700 activities and workshops have taken place in libraries across the borough since the beginning of the year offering residents of all ages a wide and diverse range of learning opportunities in addition to the core library offer. These include, for example, IT skills training, theatrical performances, author visits and talks, coding and

¹³ Annual KPI from the Residents' Perception Survey (RPS).

¹⁴ Annual KPI from the Residents' Perception Survey (RPS).

robotics workshops and music lessons. The Year of Learning has been instrumental in forging closer partnerships with other council departments, public health services, as well as a range of education and cultural providers such as Barnet and Southgate College, Middlesex University and Arts Depot. Year of Learning activity continues until the end of December 2019.

- 9.1.2 A new Library Management System with an enhanced public access portal was successfully installed and went live in April 2019. Improvements include the ability to place reservations and join the library directly from the library catalogue; pay library fines and charges online; receive email notifications regarding reservations and items due back or overdue; reset library PINs online. Installation of the acquisitions module is underway and due to be completed in September 2019.
- 9.1.3 Work to develop an online room and event booking system (Booking Live) has progressed, with User Acceptance Testing now completed. It is anticipated that the system will be ready to launch to the public in September 2019.
- 9.1.4 The procurement process for the independent evaluation of the Library Service Transformation has been completed following approval by committee in June 2019 and a contract has been awarded to the Activist Group Ltd. A report of the findings of this evaluation and associated recommendations will be presented to CLL Committee in November 2019.

9.2 KPIs

- 9.2.1 There are six KPIs for this priority. These are being reviewed in line with the independent evaluation of the Library Service, which will be presented to CLL Committee in November 2019. The KPIs for the Library Service will be updated following completion of this evaluation in line with recommendations made by the review.

9.3 Risks

- 9.3.1 There are two risks to delivery of the actions for this priority. These have been assessed at a medium/low (4 to 6) level in line with activities undertaken in Q1. Controls/mitigations are in place to manage the risks.
- **FS031 – Customers unable to book online (risk score 5).** A delay in completing the build of Booking Live or the identification of significant issues in the testing phase could lead to customers being unable to book rooms and events online. To manage this risk customers will continue to be able to book events and rooms via email and in branch whilst development and installation of Booking Live is in progress.
 - **FS032 – Delay in new Library Management System (risk score 6).** If the testing phase identifies any significant issues this could lead to a delay in the new Library Management System (LMS). The circulation modules have been successfully installed. Online ordering has continued with orders placed directly via Integra whilst work continues to integrate the new LMS with the corporate finance system. New items have continued to be received at all libraries.

10 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 These recommendations are to provide the Committee with relevant budget, performance and risk information in relation to the corporate and committee priorities in the Corporate Plan (Barnet 2024) and CLL Committee Annual Delivery Plan. This paper enables the council to meet the budget agreed by Council in March 2019.

11 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

11.1 None.

12 POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

12.1 None.

13 IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

13.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

13.1.1 The report provides an overview of performance for Q1 2019/20, including budget forecasts, savings, progress on actions, KPIs and risks to delivering the Annual Delivery Plan.

13.1.2 The Q1 2019/20 results for all Corporate Plan and Delivery Plan KPIs are published on the Open Barnet portal at <https://open.barnet.gov.uk/dataset>

13.1.3 Robust budget, performance and risk monitoring are essential to ensure that there are adequate and appropriately directed resources to support delivery and achievement of corporate and committee priorities as set out in the Corporate Plan (Barnet 2024) and Annual Delivery Plans.

13.1.4 Relevant council strategies and policies include the following:

- Medium Term Financial Strategy
- Corporate Plan (Barnet 2024)
- CLL Committee Annual Delivery Plan
- Performance and Risk Management Frameworks.

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

13.2.1 The budget forecasts are included in the report. More detailed information on financial performance is provided to Financial Performance and Contracts Committee.

13.3 Social Value

13.3.1 The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 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. The council's contract management framework oversees that contracts deliver the expected services to the expected quality for the agreed cost. Requirements for a contractor to deliver

activities in line with Social Value will be monitored through this contract management process.

13.3 Legal and Constitutional References

13.4.1 Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 states that: “without prejudice to section 111, every local authority shall make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs and shall secure that one of their officers has responsibility for the administration of those affairs”. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 relates to the subsidiary powers of local authorities to take actions which are calculated to facilitate, or are conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of their functions.

13.4.2 Section 28 of the Local Government Act 2003 (the Act) imposes a statutory duty on a billing or major precepting authority to monitor, during the financial year, its income and expenditure against the budget calculations. If the monitoring establishes that the budgetary situation has deteriorated, the authority must take such action as it considers necessary to deal with the situation. The definition as to whether there is deterioration in an authority’s financial position is set out in section 28(4) of the Act.

13.4.3 The Council’s Constitution (Article 7, Article 7 – Committees, Forums, Working Groups and Partnerships) sets out the responsibilities of all council Committees. The responsibilities of the Community Leadership and Libraries Committee include:

- (1) Responsibility for libraries, culture, civic events, the mayoralty, community safety, registration and nationality service and grants to the voluntary sector.
- (2) To receive nominations and determine applications for buildings / land to be listed as an Asset of Community Value (Community Right to Bid)
- (3) To submit to the Policy and Resources Committee proposals on the Committee’s budget for the following year in accordance with the budget timetable and make recommendations on issues relating to virements, underspends or overspends. No decisions which result in amendments to the agreed budget may be made by the Committee unless and until the amendment has been agreed by Policy and Resources Committee.
- (4) To receive reports on relevant performance information and risk on the services under the remit of the Committee.

13.4.4 The council’s Financial Regulations can be found at:

<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s46515/17FinancialRegulations.doc.pdf>

13.5 Risk Management

13.5.1 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) and any high level (scoring 15+) risks are reported to the relevant Theme Committee and Policy and Resources Committee. In addition, the Annual Delivery Plan risks associated with the priorities for this Committee are outlined in the report.

13.6 Equalities and Diversity

13.6.1 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.

13.6.2 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.

13.6.3 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.

13.6.4 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>

13.7 Corporate Parenting

13.7.1 In line with Children and Social Work Act 2017, the council has a duty to consider Corporate Parenting Principles in carrying out any functions that relate to children and young people. There are no implications for Corporate Parenting in relation to this report.

13.8 Consultation and Engagement

13.8.1 Consultation on the new Corporate Plan (Barnet 2024) was carried out in the summer 2018. The Corporate Plan was approved by Council in March 2019.

13.9 Insight


13.9.1 The report identifies key budget, performance and risk information in relation to the CLL Committee Annual Delivery Plan.

14 BACKGROUND PAPERS

14.1 Council, 5 March 2019 – approved Corporate Plan (Barnet 2024)
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=162&MId=9456&Ver=4>

14.2 CLL Committee, 7 March 2019 – approved Annual Delivery Plan
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=694&MId=9610&Ver=4>

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	<p>Community Leadership & Libraries Committee</p> <p>20 November 2019</p>
<p>Title</p>	<p>Quarter 2 (Q2) 2019/20 Delivery Plan Performance Report</p>
<p>Report of</p>	<p>Councillor Reuben Thompstone – Committee Chairman</p>
<p>Wards</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>Status</p>	<p>Public</p>
<p>Urgent</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Key</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Enclosures</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Officer Contact Details</p>	<p>John Hickson, Interim Finance Business Partner john.hickson@barnet.gov.uk Alaine Clarke, Head of Programmes, Performance and Risk alaine.clarke@barnet.gov.uk</p>

Summary

This report provides a thematic overview of performance for Q2 2019/20 focusing on the budget forecasts and activities to deliver both corporate and committee priorities in the Community Leadership and Libraries (CLL) Committee Annual Delivery Plan.

Officer Recommendations

- The Committee is asked to review the budget, performance and risk information for Q2 2019/20 and make any referrals to Policy and Resources Committee or Financial Performance and Contracts Committee in accordance with the terms of reference of these Committees.**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Community Leadership and Libraries (CLL) Committee has responsibility for libraries, culture, civic events, the mayoralty, community safety, community engagement and cohesion, registration and nationality service and grants to the voluntary sector.
- 1.2 This report provides a **thematic overview of performance** for **Q2 2019/20** focusing on the budget forecasts and activities to deliver the **priorities** in the **CLL Committee Annual Delivery Plan**, which can be found online at:
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=694&MId=9610&Ver=4>

2. BUDGET FORECASTS

- 2.1 The **Revenue Forecast** (after reserve movements) Community Safety is £1.961m and for Libraries and Community Engagement is £3.618m (see table 2).

Table 2: Revenue Forecast (Q2 2019/20)

Service	Revised Budget	Q2 19/20 Forecast	Variance from Revised Budget Adv/(fav) ¹	Reserve Move-ments	Q2 19/20 Forecast after Reserve Move-ments	Variance after Reserve Move-ments Adv/(fav)
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Community Safety	1,936	1,961	25	0	1,961	25
Libraries and Community Engagement	3,538	3,618	80	0	3,583	80

- 2.2 The projected variance for Community Safety is forecast to be an overspend of £0.025m due to network transmissions requiring additional corrective works to the CCTV network.
- 2.3 Libraries and Community Engagement is forecasted to overspend by £0.080 due principally to rate increases at Colindale and Church End Libraries.

3. SAVINGS

- 3.1 Savings have been achieved, as the capital contribution ceased in 2018/19.

Table 3: Savings forecast delivery (Q2 2019/20)

Ref	Service area	Description of Savings	Savings for 19/20	Q2 19/20 Forecast	Comment
S1	Community Safety	CCTV: Reduce expenditure associated with CCTV once the capital contribution towards investment has been paid off.	243	243	The capital contribution ceased in 18/19
Total savings			243	243	

¹ Adv/fav refers to an adverse or favourable position. An adverse position would be a budget overspend. An adverse variance would mean the position has got worse since the last reported period.

4. PRIORITIES

4.1 This section provides an update on the Committee's priorities as follows:

- A summary of progress on Actions² to deliver the priority
- Performance of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)³
- Risks to delivering the Actions and priority
- High (15 to 25) level risks from the Corporate Risk Register⁴

4.2 The Q2 status for each of the Committee's priorities is shown in table 4. This reflects the *overall performance on Actions, KPIs and Risks*⁵ for each priority.

Table 4: Priorities for CLL Committee

Section	Priority	Q2 Status
5.	Keeping Barnet safe	Good
6.	Tackling anti-social behaviour and environmental crime	Good
7.	Celebrating diverse and strong communities and taking a zero-tolerance approach to hate crime	Good
8.	Focusing on the strengths of the community	Good
9.	Continuing to maximise access to libraries through a technology and digitally enabled service	Satisfactory

5.	Keeping Barnet safe	Q2 Status
		Good

5.1 Summary of Actions Good progress

5.1.1 Barnet's approach to anti-social behaviour (ASB) puts victims at the heart of the response and delivers enhanced multi-agency interventions to bring relief to neighbourhoods suffering from persistent and complex ASB problems. This work is facilitated and driven through the Community Safety MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Case Conference), which meets regularly to review the most persistent and complex ASB cases. In Q2, there were successful deployments of temporary CCTV cameras to a number of ASB and environmental crime hotspot locations as part of a range of measures aimed at deterring offending and identifying and taking firm enforcement action against offenders.

² A Summary of the Actions is provided for each priority. These are RAG rated as follows: Complete or Good progress = **GREEN** (where no Actions RAG rated RED); Satisfactory progress = **AMBER** (where no more than one Action RAG rated RED) or Limited progress = **RED** (where two or more Actions RAG rated RED).

³ KPI RAG rating reflects the percentage variance of the result against the target as follows: On target = **GREEN (G)**; Up to 9.9% off target = **AMBER (A)**; 10% or more off target = **RED (R)**. The Direction of Travel (DOT) status shows the percentage variation in the result since last year e.g. Improving (**↑ I**), Worsening (**↓ W**) or Same (**→ S**). The percentage variation is calculated as follows: Q2 19/20 result minus Q2 18/19 result equals difference; then difference divided by Q2 18/19 result multiplied by 100 = percentage variation. KPIs are illustrated by (q) quarter; (c) cumulative up to end quarter; (s) snapshot in time; or (r) rolling 12 months.

⁴ The Corporate Risk Register includes strategic risks (strategic and business critical risks) and high (15 to 25) service/joint risks (service and contract delivery risks). All risks are managed in line with the council's risk management framework. The risk registers are live documents and the Q2 19/20 Corporate Risk Register provides a snapshot in time (as at end September 2019). The risk ratings are: Low = 1 to 3 (**GREEN**); Medium/Low = 4 to 6 (**YELLOW**); Medium/High = 8 to 12 (**AMBER**); and High = 15 to 25 (**RED**).

⁵ The Q2 status reflects the *overall performance* on Actions, KPIs and Risks as follows: Complete or Good progress = **GREEN** (where no Actions or KPIs RAG rated RED and no more than one high level risk); Satisfactory progress = **AMBER** (where no more than one Action or KPIs RAG rated RED and/or no more than two high level risks) or Limited progress = **RED** (where two or more Actions or KPIs RAG rated RED and/or more than two high level risks).

5.1.2 The Barnet Safer Communities Partnership has invested in the OWL (Online Watch Link) system to help keep the community safe and updated with the latest crime prevention advice from the Police and Neighbourhood Watch. Over 24,000 people in Barnet were signed up to OWL by end September 2019.

5.2 KPIs

5.2.1 There are four KPIs for this priority, which monitor crime and ASB. One KPI met the Q2 target. Three KPIs are Monitor only. One KPI has worsened since last year.

- **Overall crime rate in Barnet – 77.9 compared to 71.1 last year.** Overall crime has increased in the last twelve months. The increase represents a similar increase across London with Barnet's crime rate 22% lower than the London average of 99.85.

Indicator	Polarity	18/19 EOY	19/20 Target	Q2 19/20			Q2 18/19	Benchmarking
				Target	Result	DOT	Result	
Complex repeat ASB cases to be problem solved through Community Safety MARAC	Bigger is better	New for 19/20	30	7	18 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Residents signed up to OWL (s)	Bigger is better	New for 19/20	>20000	Monitor	24103	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Overall crime rate in Barnet (total notifiable offences) (r)	Smaller is Better	74.12 ⁶	Monitor	Monitor	77.9 ⁷	↓ W +9.6 %	71.1 ⁸	London 99.85 (Aug 18 - Jul 19, Met Police)
Overall rate of burglary in Barnet (r)	Smaller is Better	New for 19/20	Monitor	Monitor	9.54 ⁹	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	London 9.22 (Aug 18 - Jul 19, Met Police)

5.3 Risks

5.3.1 There are two risks to delivery of the actions for this priority. These have been assessed at a low (1 to 3) and medium/high (8 to 12) level and have controls/mitigations in place to manage the risks.

- **CLL01 - Missed opportunities for early intervention (risk score 9).** Current information sharing on ECINS¹⁰ is live and active and in accordance with the Section 115 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Barnet Information Sharing Agreement. The new Information Sharing Agreement has been drafted with the Community Safety Team and Information Management Team and presented to the Safer Communities Partnership Board meeting in July 2019 where it was agreed to secure partners sign off by the next meeting in October 2019.

⁶ Rolling 12 months to February 2019

⁷ Rolling 12 months to July 2019

⁸ Rolling 12 months to September 2018

⁹ Rolling 12 months to July 2019 (1 Aug 18 to 31 July 19)

¹⁰ Empowering Communities Inclusion and Neighbourhood Management System is the tool used by the partnership to record crime and disorder

- **CLL02 - Under-utilisation of OWL system (risk score 3).** Lack of effective multi-agency oversight could lead to under-utilisation of the OWL system resulting in loss of interest by residents as a source of information on crime prevention and the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership. The OWL system has been promoted across the Safer Communities Partnership and public feedback has been positive, with high uptake by residents.

6. Tackling anti-social behaviour and environmental crime	Q2 Status
	Good

6.1 Summary of Actions Good progress

6.1.1 The Barnet Safer Communities Partnership has been working with the Police and other partner agencies to deliver a co-ordinated response to repeat ASB locations, supporting repeat victims and tackling persistent ASB. This approach has included the use of Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) as well as focused multi-agency days of action in persistent hotspot areas. Four PSPOs were live in Q2: Burnt Oak (Street drinking ASB); Edgware Town Centre (Street drinking ASB); Childs Hill (Street drinking ASB) and a Dog Control PSPO. The Joint Tasking Group (JTAG) meeting has been monitoring data on ASB, which is showing that the PSPOs have been effective in reducing the types of ASB that they have been targeting, including a reduction in alcohol related calls to the London ambulance service in the street drinking PSPO areas.

6.2 KPIs

6.2.1 There are four KPIs for this priority, which monitor ASB. Two KPIs met the Q2 targets. One KPI is annual and will be reported in Q4. One KPI did not meet the Q2 target.

- **Volume of ASB calls to police – 9,252 compared to 8,000 last year.** There were 9,252 ASB calls to the Police in the 12 months up to September 2019. A 10% increase on last year. A similar trend was seen across London during the same period. The reasons for the London wide upward trend in ASB calls is unclear and the council is liaising with the Police to ascertain the reasons behind the increase in Barnet.

Indicator	Polarity	18/19 EOY	19/20 Target	Q2 19/20			Q2 18/19	Benchmarking
				Target	Result	DOT	Result	
PSPOs implemented (s)	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	3 ¹¹	3	4 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Volume of ASB calls to police (r)	Smaller is Better	New for 19/20	7855 ¹²	7855	9252 ¹³ (R)	↓ W +10%	8000	No benchmark available
Multi-agency action plans in place to address high impact ASB and environmental crime areas (s)	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	6 ¹⁴	2	11 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available

¹¹ The target is 3 PSPOs implemented at any point in time.

¹² A 5% reduction vs. 2017/18 baseline of 8,268 calls.

¹³ Rolling 12 months to September 2019.

¹⁴ The target is to have at least six active plans in place at any point in time.

Indicator	Polarity	18/19 EOY	19/20 Target	Q2 19/20			Q2 18/19	Benchmarking
				Target	Result	DOT	Result	
Community engagement and communication campaigns delivered per year (Annual)	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	2	Annual	Due Q4 19/20	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available

6.3 Risks

6.3.1 There are three risks to delivery of the actions for this priority. These have been assessed at a medium/low (4 to 6) and medium/high (8 to 12) level and have controls/mitigations in place to manage the risks.

- CLL03 – Challenges to Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) (risk score 8).** A range of options are used to respond to emerging place based ASB issues, with a PSPO considered only after other options have been used and the issues persist. Oversight is provided by the Community Safety MARAC, JTAG and the ASB Delivery Group. An evidence-led approach is used for identifying and considering potential PSPOs, including public consultation exercises. The current PSPOs have received positive feedback from residents and demonstrated reductions in ASB, including substantial reductions in calls to police for street drinking related ASB within the control zones.
- CLL04 - Ineffective enforcement of PSPOs (risk score 9 – increased from 6).** There are currently four active PSPOs. Three are alcohol related and the fourth is the Dog Control PSPO. All are monitored via the Community Safety Multi Agency Risk assessment conference and the JTAG process. There is a further PSPO being implemented in High Barnet for alcohol related ASB but this has yet to be authorised. The likelihood score has increased due to summer/autumn months being seasonal high points for levels of alcohol related ASB, with resources to enforce PSPOs potentially being stretched. The overall risk and enforcement of the PSPOs continue to be monitored by the JTAG.
- CLL05 – Ineffective community engagement (risk score 6).** To ensure resources are targeted in areas with the most persistent and severe ASB, analysis (overseen by an Analysis Core Group) is undertaken to join up information across the Safer Communities Partnership. Work has continued on the Community Safety Strategic Assessment to provide a picture of the changing trend of crime and ASB in the borough. The Assessment will be used to inform the refresh of the Community Safety strategy.

7. Celebrating diverse and strong communities and taking a zero-tolerance approach to hate crime	Q2 Status
	Good

7.1 Summary of Actions Good progress

7.1.1 The Barnet Zero Tolerance to Hate Crime Project is part of the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership's commitment to working together to improve access to justice for victims of Hate Crime and making it easier for people to report Hate Crime and get the support they need. The project has been supported with funding secured from MOPAC and brings together the council, Police, Barnet Mencap and other VCS partners to increase the profile and reach of Barnet's Hate Crime Reporting Centres.

7.1.2 There are now 309 Hate Crime Awareness Champions and the project continues to have good engagement from the nine Hate Crime Reporting Centres. The project has met the target to deliver five Hate Crime Awareness Workshops in 2019/20. The project has a target to hold 10 Hate Crime Training Sessions across the partnership, providing training to 100 people (building on the 122 plus staff already trained over the last 18 months). Most of the training is scheduled to take place in Q3 and Q4, so the numbers to date look low compared to the year-end target. In Q1 and Q2, the project has been focused on the reporting centres, user groups and recruitment of Hate Crime Awareness Champions; in Q3 and Q4 the focus will be on the training.

7.1.3 The Communities Together Network (CTN) is Barnet’s forum for the council, Police, CCG and VCS to share information on issues relating to community participation, cohesion and safety. The theme this year is to promote Strong, Successful and Resilient Communities. The latest CTN bulletin was published to partners on 13 September 2019. The CTN is led by Community Participation and Equalities at Barnet Council and takes place four times a year.

7.2 KPIs

7.2.1 There are seven KPIs for this priority, which monitor hate crime. Five KPIs met the Q2 targets. One KPI is Monitor only and has worsened since last year. One KPI did not meet the Q2 target.

- **Racist and religious hate crime – 796 hate crimes were reported** in the 12 months up to September 2019 compared to 711 last year. A similar increase in racist and religious hate crime was seen in London over the same period. The Barnet ‘Zero Tolerance to Hate Crime project’ has been working to strengthen the partnership approach to tackling Hate Crime by supporting the joint work of the Safer Communities Partnership Board, Safeguarding Adults Board and Barnet MENCAP to raise awareness about Hate Crime, encourage reporting and improving access to justice for victims. The project supports and establishes Hate Crime Reporting Centres, delivers Hate Crime awareness training across the partnership and delivers communications and engagement campaigns across the borough.
- **Hate Crime Reporting Centres (RAG rated AMBER) – 9 against a target of 10 Hate Crime Reporting Centres to be open at any time in Barnet.** In Q2, the target was slightly missed but the Barnet Zero Tolerance to Hate Crime Project plans to launch five new Hate Crime Reporting Centres this year.

Indicator	Polarity	18/19 EOY	19/20 Target	Q2 19/20			Q2 18/19	Benchmarking
				Target	Result	DOT	Result	
Racist and religious hate crime (r)	Smaller is Better	729 ¹⁵	Monitor	Monitor	796 ¹⁶	↓ W +12%	711 ¹⁷	No benchmark available
Hate Crime Reporting Centres in Barnet (s)	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	10 ¹⁸	10	9 (A)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available

¹⁵ Rolling 12 months to February 2019.

¹⁶ Rolling 12 months to September 2019 (Oct 18 to Sep 19).

¹⁷ Rolling 12 months to August 2018.

¹⁸ The target is for minimum of 10 Hate Crime Reporting Centres to be in operation at any one time.

Indicator	Polarity	18/19 EOY	19/20 Target	Q2 19/20			Q2 18/19	Benchmarking
				Target	Result	DOT	Result	
Residents signed up as Hate Crime Awareness Champions (c)	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	50	20	21 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Training sessions delivered across the partnership (c)	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	10	2 ¹⁹	3 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Number of staff to receive training across the partnership (c)	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	100	16 ²⁰	16 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Number of Hate Crime Awareness Workshops delivered (c)	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	5	3	6 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Number of CTN meetings held per year (q)	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	4	1	1 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available

7.3 Risks

7.3.1 There are two risks to delivery of the actions for this priority. These have been assessed at a medium/high (8 to 12) level and have controls/mitigations in place to manage the risks.

- **CLL06 – Lack of consistent communication (risk score 12).** Actions are planned throughout the year to encourage the reporting of hate crime. The Zero Tolerance to Hate Crime Project is in its second full year and is building on the success demonstrated last year. Actions are planned from now through to March 2020, in partnership with Barnet Mencap, the Police and other partnership organisations. The project reports every six months to the Safer Communities Partnership Board.
- **CLL07 - Hate Crime awareness training programme (risk score 8).** A failure across the partnership to give sufficient priority to engaging with the Hate Crime Awareness training programme could limit its effectiveness and harm the ability of the partnership to provide a co-ordinated response to Hate Crime. Training attendance is monitored and reported every six months to the Safer Communities Partnership Board. A report is being prepared for CLL Committee and the Safer Communities Partnership Board to provide an update on the delivery of the Zero Tolerate to Hate Crime Project, which will include recommendations for next steps.

8. Focusing on the strengths of the community	Q2 Status
	Good

8.1 Summary of Actions Satisfactory progress

8.1.1 Since contracts were awarded to Volunteering Barnet (VB) in August 2017 and Inclusion Barnet in November 2018, one-to-one sessions and workshops have been delivered to

¹⁹ This is a cumulative target and remains the same as for Q1. No training sessions were originally planned for Q2, but one was subsequently held in Q2.

²⁰ This is a cumulative KPI but shows a reduced cumulative target in Q2 (from Q1) to reflect the programme of training sessions, which are primarily to take place in Q3 and Q4.

support the VCS sector. Some contract performance for VB was disappointing but there will be closer monitoring to ensure improvements are made such as closer working relationships with staff from VB have been put in place to drive improvements. Work on developing the Barnet community directory has been paused pending a review, the outcome of which may result of a rebuild of the directory.

8.2 KPIs

8.2.1 There are five KPIs for this priority, which monitor community engagement. Two KPIs met the Q2 targets. One KPI is bi-annual and will be reported again in Q3. Two KPIs are annual and will be reported as part of the Residents' Perception Survey in Q3.

Indicator	Polarity	18/19 EOY	19/20 Target	Q2 19/20			Q2 18/19	Benchmarking
				Target	Result	DOT	Result	
Residents who agree that people pull together to help improve the area (Annual) ²¹	Bigger is Better	51% (Autumn 17)	54%	54%	Due Q3 19/20	No RPS 18/19	No RPS 18/19	No benchmark available
Number of hours of 121 surgeries (q)	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	36	9	11 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Number of Funders Fairs (bi-annual)	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	2	2 by Q3 19/20 ²²	Due Q3 19/20 ²³	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available
Residents who volunteer at least once a month (Annual) ²⁴	Bigger is Better	30 (Autumn 17)	33%	33%	Due Q3 19/20	No RPS 18/19	No RPS 18/19	No benchmark available
Number of new residents registering to be a volunteer (c)	Bigger is Better	New for 19/20	750	374	458 (G)	New for 19/20	New for 19/20	No benchmark available

8.3 Risks

8.3.1 There is one risk to delivery of the actions for this priority²⁵. This has been assessed at a medium/high (8 to 12) level and has controls/mitigations in place to manage the risk.

- **G&C050 - Availability of resources to the voluntary sector (risk score 9).** The voluntary sector is supported through partnership activity. Strategic plans have been aligned where possible and regular Partnership Board meetings are held to discuss activities. Contract monitoring meetings are held regularly with Barnet Together.

²¹ Annual KPI from the Residents' Perception Survey (RPS).

²² KPI reported bi-annually so target for Q3.

²³ KPI reported bi-annually so next result due in Q3.

²⁴ Annual KPI from the Residents' Perception Survey (RPS).

²⁵ G&C051 - Working with the Voluntary Community Faith Sector (VCFS) has been merged with G&C050 – Availability of resources to the voluntary sector.

9. Continuing to maximise access to libraries through a technology and digitally enabled service	Q2 Status Satisfactory
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9.1 Summary of Actions Satisfactory progress

- 9.1.1 The Year of Learning has continued throughout the last quarter with a specific focus on reading and health. Q2 has seen 516 events throughout libraries and community venues in Barnet with participation by 8,952 residents. Participation in the 2019 Summer Reading Challenge increased this year by 21% with 2,555 children taking part and 902 children attending 50 literacy events over the course of the summer holidays
- 9.1.2 New Barnet Partnership Library opened to the public on 24 September 2019 and replaces the former East Barnet Partnership Library. The new facility is part of the New Barnet Leisure Centre and is delivered on behalf of the Council by Inclusion Barnet.
- 9.1.3 Installation of the acquisitions module of the New Library Management System is nearing completion with user acceptance testing currently underway. Work to install the automated telephone renewal system has now begun.
- 9.1.4 Booking-Live, the new libraries online room and event booking system, is currently being populated with existing bookings data and will shortly be rolled out on a site by site basis, starting at Finchley Church End Library.
- 9.1.5 Activist Group have commenced their independent evaluation of the Libraries Transformation Programme. Public engagement sessions including focus groups and a resident survey commenced at the start of October 2019. Due to restrictions during purdah engagement activity has been suspended, although the survey will remain open. Engagement meetings will now take place the week of 13 January 2020 and Activist will report on their findings in early February 2020.

9.2 KPIs

- 9.2.1 KPIs will be reported as part of the independent evaluation of the Library Service currently being undertaken and due to be presented to CLL Committee in November 2019. Ongoing KPIs for the Library Service will be updated following completion of this evaluation in line with recommendations made by the review.

9.3 Risks

- 9.3.1 There are two risks to delivery of the actions for this priority. These have been assessed at a medium/low (4 to 6) level. There was no change to these risks in Q2. Controls/mitigations are in place to manage the risks.
- **FS031 – Customers unable to book online (risk score from 5).** A delay in completing the build of Booking Live or the identification of significant issues in the testing phase could lead to customers being unable to book rooms and events online. To manage this risk customers will continue to be able to book events and rooms via email and in branch whilst development and installation of Booking Live is in progress. The initial phase of Booking Live has been delivered and is ready to be populated with live data.
 - **FS032 – Delay in new Library Management System (risk score 6).** If the testing phase identifies any significant issues this could lead to a delay in the new Library Management System (LMS). The circulation modules have been successfully installed. Online ordering has continued with orders placed directly via Integra whilst work continues to integrate the new LMS with the corporate finance system.

10 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 These recommendations are to provide the Committee with relevant budget, performance and risk information in relation to the corporate and committee priorities in the Corporate Plan (Barnet 2024) and CLL Committee Annual Delivery Plan. This paper enables the council to meet the budget agreed by Council in March 2019.

11 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 11.1 None.

12 POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 12.1 None.

13 IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

13.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 13.1.1 The report provides an overview of performance for Q2 2019/20, including budget forecasts, savings, progress on actions, KPIs and risks to delivering the Annual Delivery Plan.
- 13.1.2 The Q2 2019/20 results for all Corporate Plan and Delivery Plan KPIs are published on the Open Barnet portal at <https://open.barnet.gov.uk/dataset>
- 13.1.3 Robust budget, performance and risk monitoring are essential to ensure that there are adequate and appropriately directed resources to support delivery and achievement of corporate and committee priorities as set out in the Corporate Plan (Barnet 2024) and Annual Delivery Plans.
- 13.1.4 Relevant council strategies and policies include the following:
- Medium Term Financial Strategy
 - Corporate Plan (Barnet 2024)
 - CLL Committee Annual Delivery Plan
 - Performance and Risk Management Frameworks.

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

- 13.2.1 The budget forecasts are included in the report. More detailed information on financial performance is provided to Financial Performance and Contracts Committee.

13.3 Social Value

- 13.3.1 The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 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. The council's contract management framework oversees that contracts deliver the expected services

to the expected quality for the agreed cost. Requirements for a contractor to deliver activities in line with Social Value will be monitored through this contract management process.

13.3 Legal and Constitutional References

13.4.1 Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 states that: “without prejudice to section 111, every local authority shall make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs and shall secure that one of their officers has responsibility for the administration of those affairs”. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 relates to the subsidiary powers of local authorities to take actions which are calculated to facilitate, or are conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of their functions.

13.4.2 Section 28 of the Local Government Act 2003 (the Act) imposes a statutory duty on a billing or major precepting authority to monitor, during the financial year, its income and expenditure against the budget calculations. If the monitoring establishes that the budgetary situation has deteriorated, the authority must take such action as it considers necessary to deal with the situation. The definition as to whether there is deterioration in an authority’s financial position is set out in section 28(4) of the Act.

13.4.3 The Council’s Constitution (Article 7, Article 7 – Committees, Forums, Working Groups and Partnerships) sets out the responsibilities of all council Committees. The responsibilities of the Community Leadership and Libraries Committee include:

- (1) Responsibility for libraries, culture, civic events, the mayoralty, community safety, registration and nationality service and grants to the voluntary sector.
- (2) To receive nominations and determine applications for buildings / land to be listed as an Asset of Community Value (Community Right to Bid)
- (3) To submit to the Policy and Resources Committee proposals on the Committee’s budget for the following year in accordance with the budget timetable and make recommendations on issues relating to virements, underspends or overspends. No decisions which result in amendments to the agreed budget may be made by the Committee unless and until the amendment has been agreed by Policy and Resources Committee.
- (4) To receive reports on relevant performance information and risk on the services under the remit of the Committee.

13.4.4 The council’s Financial Regulations can be found at:

<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s46515/17FinancialRegulations.doc.pdf>

13.5 Risk Management

13.5.1 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) and any high level (scoring 15+) risks are reported to the relevant Theme Committee and Policy and Resources Committee. In addition, the Annual Delivery Plan risks associated with the priorities for this Committee are outlined in the report.

13.6 Equalities and Diversity

13.6.1 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.

13.6.2 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.

13.6.3 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.

13.6.4 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>

13.7 Corporate Parenting

13.7.1 In line with Children and Social Work Act 2017, the council has a duty to consider Corporate Parenting Principles in carrying out any functions that relate to children and young people. There are no implications for Corporate Parenting in relation to this report.

13.8 Consultation and Engagement

13.8.1 Consultation on the new Corporate Plan (Barnet 2024) was carried out in the summer 2018. The Corporate Plan was approved by Council in March 2019.

13.9 Insight

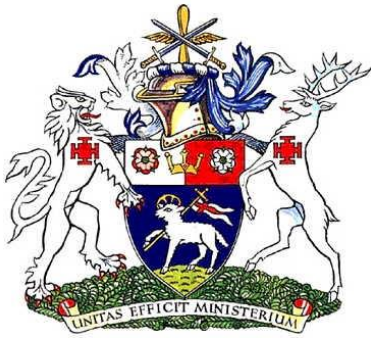
13.9.1 The report identifies key budget, performance and risk information in relation to the CLL Committee Annual Delivery Plan.

14 BACKGROUND PAPERS

14.1 Council, 5 March 2019 – approved Corporate Plan (Barnet 2024)
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=162&MId=9456&Ver=4>

14.2 CLL Committee, 7 March 2019 – approved Annual Delivery Plan
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=694&MId=9610&Ver=4>

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Community Leadership Libraries Committee

20 November 2019

Title	Communities Together Network: Annual Report 2019
Report of	Chairman of the Community Leadership and Libraries Committee
Wards	All
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	Yes
Enclosures	Communities Together Network Annual Report 2018/19
Officers Contact Details	<p>Will Cooper, Community Engagement, Participation & Strategy Lead (william.cooper@barnet.gov.uk, 020 8359 5688)</p> <p>Danusia Brzezicka, Community Participation Officer (danusia.brzezicka@barnet.gov.uk, 020 8359 3211)</p>

Summary

This report presents the fifth annual report of Barnet's Communities Together Network (CTN). The CTN was initially set up as a borough-wide forum to support community cohesion and resilience following social unrest in 2011. It was formalised in October 2013 to support the council's commitment and refreshed approach to equalities. In 2016 CTN broadened its community cohesion focus to operate as a strategic forum to support the objectives of the Community Participation Strategy and The All Party Political Group for Faith's Covenant on Faith Action. This was in response to an expressed need for a borough strategic forum to help the borough maintain strong community links and partnerships as well as to foster excellent community relationships and community spirit. This paper provides an account of the CTN's activities over the past year.

Recommendations

1. That the Committee note The Communities Together Network Annual Report 2018/19 and approve its publication on the council's website.

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 An Annual CTN Report is required under the arrangements agreed at Cabinet on 24 September 2013 which gave authority to set up CTN under the 'Communities Together' Action Plan and the approach for promoting community cohesion and monitoring community tensions which included an annual report to Community Leadership Libraries Committee.
<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/g7464/Printed%20minutes%2024th-Sep-2013%2019.00%20Cabinet.pdf?T=1>

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The recommendation to note the report and approve its publication on the council's website is for reasons of transparency - to give clear information to residents and partner organisations. The recommendation will also help to advance partnership working and equality of opportunity between people from different groups. Fostering good relations between different communities is a statutory obligation of the Equality Act 2010 - and in particular s149 which sets out the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) - which came into force on 5 April 2011.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 No alternative reporting option is required. Not publishing the report would run counter to the arrangements agreed for CTN and the council's commitment to transparency.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 Following CLLC approval of the report, it will be published on the council's website and action will be taken to develop a future work programme and to support the key events outlined in the report.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 This is the fifth CTN Annual Report produced by Barnet Council under the refreshed approach to equalities following the 2010 Equality Act, and it is part of our approach to strengthening community resilience and cohesion.
- 5.1.2 The CTN supports the Barnet 2024 Corporate Plan priority to deliver safe

and strong communities.

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

5.2.1 There are no resource implications for this report.

5.3 Social Value

5.3.1 There are no direct social value considerations as this paper does not relate to a service contract. However, the purpose of CTN is to build an understanding of what really matters to Barnet's communities and to share information so that Barnet's diverse communities feel informed, included and safe. It also facilitates partnership working in the borough, fostering community cohesion, and empowering community groups to take on more responsibility for their local areas and to deliver better outcomes for residents in the years ahead.

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

5.4.1 The council has statutory obligations under the Equality Act 2010 - and in particular s149 which sets out the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) - which came into force on 5 April 2011.

5.4.2 Article 7 section 7.5 in the council's constitution sets out the responsibility for functions of the Community Leadership and Libraries Committee which include, responsibility for civic events, community safety, emergency planning, registration and nationality service, grants to the voluntary sector.

5.5 Risk Management

5.5.1 The CTN developed following civil disturbances in 2011 (which were noticeably less pronounced in Barnet than neighbouring boroughs) to promote good relationships between different communities in Barnet. The multi faith community relationships are an important element in community cohesion.

5.5.2 CTN aims to help members feel involved, informed and safe in both proactive and reactive activities. It acts to build community resilience and mitigate the risk of community tension by promoting good relationships and building an understanding of what really matters to Barnet's communities. It facilitates partnership working in the borough and shares information to empower people to take on more responsibility for their local areas. It also acts as the community communication channel in the event of any emergency.

5.6 Equalities and Diversity

- 5.6.1 CTN is part of Barnet’s approach to equalities and forms part of the council’s response to the third aim of General Public Sector Equalities Duty PSED (set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) - to foster good relations between people from different groups.

5.7 Corporate Parenting

- 5.7.1 As a local authority we have responsibility for the children in care and care leavers within our borough. Corporate Parenting is about offering at least the same standards of care as would a ‘reasonable parent’ and ensuring that the decisions we make as a council do not affect this cohort negatively. This report does not provide any implications for Barnet’s children in care, other than supporting any community group with the aim of supporting children in care and care leavers.
- 5.7.2 The CTN is committed to work in partnership with the Young Barnet Foundation and other community and faith groups in Barnet to further support young people under the council’s commitment as a Corporate Parent. Support will be given to this vulnerable group to ensure they receive good education, have a sense of belonging in Barnet, keep healthy both mentally and physically and to stay safe.

5.8 Consultation and Engagement

- 5.8.1 It was not considered necessary to undertake a formal consultation exercise for this report.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6.1 At their meeting on 24 September 2013 Cabinet gave authority for setting up CTN under the ‘Communities Together’ Action Plan and to the approach for promoting community cohesion and monitoring community tensions
<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/g7464/Printed%20minutes%2024th-Sep-2013%2019.00%20Cabinet.pdf?T=1>
- 6.2 At their meeting on 24 June 2015 Community Leadership Committee noted the First Communities Together Network Annual report 2015/16 and agreed its publication on the council Website.
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=694&MId=8367&Ver=4>
- 6.3 At their meeting on 24 June 2015 the Community Leadership Committee noted the report on Faith Covenant and Charter with the Voluntary Sector and the Covenant and Charter attached to the report at Appendix A and Appendix B. The Committee RESOLVED that: 1. The Committee, on behalf of the council, adopts the All Parliamentary Party Covenant for Engagement between Faith Communities and Local Authorities, endorses its principles and authorises officers to carry out the planned actions under the five commitments.

- 6.4 The Committee noted and endorsed the planned actions to further develop and mainstream use of the council's Charter with the Voluntary Sector.
- 6.5 The Committee supported a referral of the decision to Full Council, in line with the provisions of the council's Constitution.
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=694&MId=8367&Ver=4>
- 6.6 At their meeting on 28 July 2015 Council adopted the All Parliamentary Party Covenant for Engagement between Faith Communities and Local Authorities, endorsed its principles and authorised officers to carry out the planned actions under the five commitments.
- 6.7 Council noted and endorsed the planned actions to further develop and mainstream use of the council's Charter with the Voluntary Sector.
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/g8339/Public%20minutes%2028th-Jul-2015%2019.00%20Council.pdf?T=11>

Communities Together Network (CTN) 2019 Annual Report to Community Leadership Committee 20 November 2019**1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This is the fifth annual report on Barnet's Communities Together Network (CTN). CTN is a borough-wide strategic forum that aims to promote dialogue, engagement and participation with a network of local partners in the voluntary, charity, community and faith organisations. CTN aims to facilitate discussion between community organisations to come together to discuss issues that are important to the community.
- 1.2 This report looks at how the council has worked with local partners through the CTN to support the delivery of the Corporate Plan, provides examples of how CTN strives to drive change by encouraging good relations between Barnet's diverse communities and looks to further develop Barnet's Community Participation Strategy.

2. COMMUNITIES TOGETHER NETWORK (CTN)

- 2.1 The CTN was initially set up as a borough-wide forum to support community cohesion and resilience following social unrest in 2011. Since then, the CTN has broadened its community cohesion focus to operate as a strategic forum to support the objectives of the Community Participation Strategy and The All Party Political Group for Faith's Covenant on Faith Action.
- 2.2 The central objectives of CTN are to:
- Provide meaningful, two-way conversation between the council and community groups – and the people that they represent. Other strategic partners such as the CCG and police are also included.
 - Build an understanding of what really matters to Barnet's communities and to share information between partners so that Barnet's diverse communities feel informed, included and safe.
 - Form part of the council's response to the third aim of General Public Sector Equalities Duty (set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) - to foster good relations between people from different groups.
 - Promote community cohesion through providing a space to develop good relationships and by monitoring and preventing any community tensions.
- 2.3 The CTN membership is open to all voluntary, community, faith groups and businesses in Barnet as well as council officers and the borough strategic partners including police, fire, education, and health. Councillors are welcome to attend meetings and to refer issues to CTN. In line with

the CTN Terms of Reference, there has been a drive to improve Voluntary, Community and Faith sector (VCFS) engagement and attendance at the open meetings. The CTN membership list currently lists 1261 individuals (340 of these are council officers).

- 2.4 The CTN is facilitated by the council's Strategy Team, and open meetings of the CTN are chaired by the Deputy Head of Strategy.
- 2.4.1 The CTN Steering Group meets annually in December to review CTN operation and plan the programme of work for four open meetings each year. The Steering Group has a core membership of strategic partners which comprises of: the VCFS Development Partnership – Barnet Together, Barnet Multi Faith Forum, Police, Fire, Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group and Federation of Small Businesses. The steering group is chaired by the Chairman of the Community Leadership and Libraries Committee.
- 2.4.2 CTN meetings are an open forum designed to facilitate information sharing, partnership development and networking. Each meeting has a theme, and guest speakers with relevant expertise are invited to give presentations. There is usually space in the agenda for organisations to update the wider network on key developments from their own areas of work. Following the meeting there is also a period of time for networking. Attendees consistently feed back that this is one of the most useful aspects of the meetings.
- 2.4.3 The main form of communication to the network is the CTN Bulletin. This is a fortnightly email newsletter providing succinct information on local and national issues, as well as details of current consultations and forthcoming funding opportunities. In summer of 2019 a Facebook group for the CTN was launched. Membership currently stands at 129 individuals and organisations.
- 2.4.4 The CTN has an Emergency Response function through links with the Borough Resilience Forum. Smaller emergency meetings will be convened when needed by selecting representatives from all parts of the membership as necessary, according to the circumstances.
- 2.5 The CTN Terms of Reference were refreshed in consultation with partners, VCFS and adopted at the open meeting in March 2016 as follows:
- To promote community wellbeing and encourage cohesive and safe communities.
 - To operate at a proactive and reactive level in response to emergency incidents, so that emergency services and the voluntary, faith and community sector can work together to monitor and prevent community tension.

- To allow borough strategic partners to have early sight of strategic issues affecting the voluntary, faith and community sector.
- To facilitate and promote joint working between the voluntary, faith and community sector, council and business sector.
- To act as a consultative forum to discuss, identify and raise issues of concern.

2.6 The CTN offers a meaningful, two-way conversation with the VCFS to share information and gather intelligence on emergent needs of the diverse communities in the borough.

3. A YEAR IN REVIEW

3.1 This section of the report describes how CTN has operated over the past year.

3.2 CTN Steering Group

The Steering Group met on 10 December 2018 and reviewed progress of the network over the last year. The Steering Group agreed the future workplan for the quarterly open CTN meetings and the themes that each meeting should cover, namely:

- Spring: Responding to needs
- Summer: Emergency planning
- Autumn: Mental health
- Winter: Food security

3.3 The Steering Group will next meet in January 2020.

3.4 CTN Open Forums

Meetings of the CTN Open Forum are designed to be interactive and to encourage networking and discussion amongst the membership to achieve a solution focused approach to questions, issues and challenges that face communities in the borough.

3.5 A key CTN objective is to share information and talk about what matters to communities so that CTN members feel informed and can influence relevant decision-making processes. For example, at the open meetings this year the following information was shared:

- The VCFS role in Barnet's preparations for Brexit, and the implications of a potential 'no-deal' scenario.
- Details of the Barnet Together partnership comprising Inclusion Barnet, Young Barnet Foundation and Volunteering Barnet. How

this infrastructure and development partnership can support the VCFS and how to access this support.

- Launch of 'Together we are Barnet' campaign that showcases some of the community groups in Barnet and the good work they do in bringing people together.
- Emergency planning in Barnet and the steps that the council has taken to increase resilience in the borough.

- 3.6 Council officers can give presentations at CTN where they might be developing key strategies which link to the theme of the CTN meeting. This can be particularly useful as a forum for getting the views of the VCFS on an emerging strategy. A recent example is the relaunch of the council's employee volunteering scheme (ESV), where organisations were encouraged to provide opportunities for council staff to volunteer and share skills.
- 3.7 The fortnightly CTN bulletin is sent to all members by email and promotes local events, council campaigns, funding and other opportunities. The success of providing succinct information on a regular basis has resulted in this year's distribution list increasing from 660 to 1261 email recipients.
- 3.8 The bulletin has informed the VCFS of various opportunities throughout the year. These have included public consultations and the various ways of getting involved in the Together we are Barnet campaign. It has also provided details of how to apply for free office furniture made available by the council's recent office move, and the free government-funded litter picking equipment available to local groups. Invitations to attend the themed open network meetings are communicated through the CTN bulletin.
- 3.9 An action in the current Community Participation Strategy called for a social online forum for VCFS groups to be established, in order to facilitate information sharing outside of the fortnightly bulletins and enable dialogue between CTN members on a secure platform. A Facebook group was created in the summer of 2019 that now has 129 members. It is a closed group, which means any new members must be approved by an administrator, and posts are not visible to the general public.

3.10 Details of the three open network meetings held are given in the table below (the fourth will take place on 28 November at OneStoneGrove, Edgware):

Date	Venue	Theme	Attendees	Agenda
7 March 2019	Independent Living Centre	Responding to Needs	30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brexit Preparedness Planning • Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector Support Needs survey • Barnet Together Community Support Service
6 June 2019	Unitas Youth Zone	Emergency Planning	23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barnet’s new Youth Zone • Emergency Planning - how the voluntary community sector can respond • Together, we are Barnet campaign • Barnet Council’s employee volunteering scheme
19 Sept 2019	The council’s new conference suite at 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale	Mental Health	40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DWP free mental health support to individuals and employees • Mental health services in Barnet • National Lottery Community Funding • Support for consortium bidding

3.11 Responding to emergency issues

3.11.1 The CTN works as a communications channel that enables the Barnet Resilience Forum to reach the VCFS with messages in emergencies, and to coordinate responses from member groups where appropriate. In partnership with the Community Safety team and Prevent coordinator, this communication link also enables the council to monitor, understand and reduce any community tension. The Strategy Team can on request, circulate information from strategic partners such as the Metropolitan Police or the Borough Resilience Forum to VCFS.

3.11.2 The current threat level for international terrorism attack in the UK is Severe. This has been the case since 2014, except for a few days in May

and September 2017 when the threat level was raised to Critical following UK terrorist attacks. Since the last CTN annual report, it has not been necessary to send out emergency communications to CTN members.

3.12 Enabling a more cohesive Barnet – Together we are Barnet

3.12.1 The CTN brings together organisations representing Barnet’s diverse communities; enabling partnerships to be formed and opportunities to be shared. This can have real benefits to community cohesion in the borough. Launched in the summer of 2019, the Together We Are Barnet campaign highlights this by celebrating the good work of our VCFS groups. Across both phases of the campaign a total of 10 organisations have been featured in public posters and online content. The aim of this is to provide a positive counter narrative to any messages of division or hate that might arise in the borough.

3.12.2 The CTN enables relationships with the wider faith sector through the Barnet Multi Faith Forum (BMFF) in their capacity as the borough strategic partner for faith communities.

4. THE NEXT STAGE

4.7 This report will be shared with the CTN Steering Group at their next meeting and an action plan will be agreed for the coming year.

4.8 As the CTN is now five years old, it would be timely to undertake a reappraisal of its terms of reference, as well as its aims and purposes. This can be done in line with resetting objectives for the Community Participation Action Plan when this is updated in 2020.

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**London Borough of Barnet
Community Leadership and
Libraries Committee
November 2019- March 2020**

Contact: Tracy Scollin Tel 020 8359 2315 tracy.scollin@barnet.gov.uk

Title of Report	Overview of decision	Report Of (<i>officer</i>)	Issue Type (Non key/Key/Urgent)
20 November 2019			
Q1 2019/20 Performance Report	Including update on the Corporate Plan or Delivery Plan		Non-key
Q2 Performance Report 2019/2020	Including update on the Corporate Plan or Delivery Plan		Non-key
Communities Together Network report			Non-key
Libraries Evaluation Report - DEFERRED	Item DEFERRED in line with purdah rules.		Non-key
Business Planning - DEFERRED	Item DEFERRED in line with purdah rules.		Non-key
Armed Forces Covenant	Head of Governance		Non-key
LBB response to the Blueprint for a Whole Systems Approach to Women in Contact with the Criminal Justice System			Non-key
5 March 2020			

Title of Report	Overview of decision	Report Of (<i>officer</i>)	Issue Type (Non key/Key/Urgent)
Community Participation Strategy Update	Interim Community Engagement, Participation and Strategy Lead		Non-key
Business Planning			Non-key
Libraries Evaluation Report	Head of Libraries		Non-key
Q3 2019/20 Performance Report	Including an update on the Corporate Plan or Delivery Plan		Non-key
To be allocated			
Annual Review Report on the changes and impact of the new library system	To be brought to the CLLC when the DCMS decision letter has been received and officers have had sufficient time to scope the evaluation to take account of the outcome and recommendations.		Non-key

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