

	<p>Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee</p> <p>12 December 2016</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Title</p>	<p>Entrepreneurial Barnet - Annual Update and Forward Plan</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Report of</p>	<p>Commissioning Director, Growth and Development</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Wards</p>	<p>All</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Status</p>	<p>Public</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Urgent</p>	<p>No</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Key</p>	<p>No</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Enclosures</p>	<p>Appendix One: Business Failure Analysis summary findings</p>
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<p>Summary</p>
<p>This report provides an update on progress towards delivering the 2016 programme of activity for Entrepreneurial Barnet, which the Committee approved on 15 December 2014. It sets out progress against each of Entrepreneurial Barnet’s five theme areas, including describing key activities that have been completed so far and areas where further activity will be undertaken in 2017. It also sets out a forward plan of decisions to be made in the year ahead.</p>

<p>Recommendations</p>
<p>1. That the Committee note the progress of Entrepreneurial Barnet in 2016.</p>
<p>2. That the Committee note the forward work plan set out on page 10 of this report and identify any additional items that it would like to be incorporated into it or to return to a future meeting.</p>

WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 This report sets out progress to date and planned future activities associated with Entrepreneurial Barnet, which is the borough's cross-public sector approach to becoming the best place in London to be a small business. The Committee agreed to receive an annual progress report when it approved Entrepreneurial Barnet on 15 December 2014 and this paper represents the second such update, the previous one being considered at its meeting on 30 November 2016.
- 1.2 Entrepreneurial Barnet is divided into five theme areas, each having an associated set of actions and outcomes: A. Getting the basics right B. A great place to live, work and invest C. Skilled employees and entrepreneurs D. Improving access to markets E. Facilitating business growth.
- 1.3 This update is divided into **two broad sections**. **The first** provides an overview of progress against each of the five theme areas set out above. **The second** presents a forward plan detailing key activities and decisions anticipated or planned in 2017.
- 1.4 Entrepreneurial Barnet brings together a range of different activities. Some of these are new and reflect the opportunities to strengthen coordination across the public sector that have been created by the framework that Entrepreneurial Barnet provides e.g. in relation to securing new external funding for supporting town centres, or closer working to create apprenticeships. Others reflect areas of existing activity that were previously occurring within services but have a wider value to the Barnet economy and businesses.

2. PROGRESS OF ENTREPRENEURIAL BARNET IN 2016

- 2.1 This section provides an update on progress delivering Entrepreneurial Barnet over the previous year. It includes outlining progress on individual projects, and also identifies the small number of areas not yet completed that had been expected by this time, and what is being done to ensure they are delivered.

THEME A: Getting the basics right

- 2.2 Theme A relates to the way businesses interact with the council and public services on a day to day basis, including how they find information about core council services like planning applications and environmental health, as well as more specific information on things like how to take on new members of staff. This theme increasingly recognises the potential of technology to making life easier for business and to reduce costs associated with a joined up "back office" within the council.
- 2.3 ***Improved customer access***
- 2.4 **The business pages of the council underwent a full refresh and relaunch in the first part of 2016**, following a process of engagement with businesses to understand what information they valued most, and with Re, to ensure that the areas of greatest

focus on the new web pages reflected the most common sorts of transactions that local businesses have with the council. For instance, licences, paying Business Rates, and permits. The goal is to increasingly treat businesses and entrepreneurs as customers, with similar status to residents and similarly high levels of satisfaction. The new business pages can be found at: <https://www.barnet.gov.uk/citizen-home/business.html>.

- 2.5 **Business queries** to the council associated with business support and advice continue to be actively monitored and responded to. Where we can address business queries within the council this is now happening, and for those that are less specific to council services we have built an effective working relationship with local business networks and groupings such as the Federation of Small Businesses and the Wohl Enterprise Centre.
- 2.7 We undertook a successful pilot for a **“Fast Track” planning service**, making it easier for developers to get building quickly. This service will now be embedded in to the core service provided by Re.
- 2.6 We are engaging regularly with major developers about the need to deliver schemes that create new apprenticeships and jobs through **Section 106 agreements**, as well as new high quality public realm that meets the needs of local businesses and residents.
- 2.8 Key areas of focus for this theme next year (details in the Forward Plan)
- Developing a refreshed “Local Plan” for Barnet that has a greater focus on supporting businesses, employment and education space, particularly close to town centres.
 - Strengthening the link between Entrepreneurial Barnet and the council’s “Customer Transformation Strategy”, to embed a more customer focused and technologically enabled approach to all aspects of business transactions with the council.
 - Continued close working with local business networks to ensure the council understands and is able to respond to the top issues and barriers to growth faced by local businesses, and as a place for business queries to be referred to when they are outside the scope of council activity.

3.1 THEME B: A great place to live, work and invest

- 3.2 This theme is about making Barnet a place where people want to live and work, and businesses want to invest, through improving town centres and making the most of the economic opportunities presented by regeneration in the borough.
- 3.3 *Thriving town centres that people want to live in, work and spend time in***
- 3.4 In 2015 the Committee identified the seven **“main” town centres** as hubs for future growth based on an analysis of their size and economic characteristics. 2016 has

seen this approach embed across council decision making and resource allocation, and the development of plans being either started or planned for each of the main town centres. Specific achievements in 2016 have been:

- **“Town Centre Offer”**: a tailored offer has been developed setting out how we will work with local groups of residents, businesses and groups in different types of Town Centre. The intention is to equip different areas with all the tools and information they need to take greater leadership over their local area on a range of areas such as external funding, events, and markets. Based on the initial success of this approach the offer is currently being expanded to include new topics such as how to secure more locally tailored Christmas lighting, and how to secure a town notice board. The Town Centre Offer can be found at: <https://www.barnet.gov.uk/citizen-home/housing-and-community/town-teams.html>.
- **Burnt Oak – Forward Together**: In 2015 the council secured £300,000 from the GLA (plus an additional £300,000 of council match funding) to develop and deliver a new strategy for improving Burnt Oak Town Centre. The final strategy is currently being publicly consulted on at <https://engage.barnet.gov.uk/> and will be published in final form by January 2016.
- **Finchley Church End Plan**: The council has commissioned the development of a comprehensive and locally-rooted long-term plan for improving Finchley Church End (also known as Finchley Central) main town centre. This plan is currently at an advanced stage of development, and work is now being undertaken to incorporate feedback received at a public consultation event that took place in the town centre on 30 November 2016, attended by 50 people. The final strategy will be consulted on in early 2017, to be published by March 2017 and embedded into future council planning activity.
- **Golders Green and Edgware**: Initial work has been undertaken in 2016 in anticipation of significant developments in both in 2017. Both the GLA and TfL are also engaged with this work, which will result in the delivery of new town centre frameworks for both in 2017 (see para 3.8).
- The Town Centre Offer has been applied notably and successfully in Mill Hill Ward, where the Mill Hill Neighbourhood Forum has worked with the council and the GLA to raise over £60,000 to improve **the Salcombe Gardens shop fronts**.
- **Deansbrook Road**: This is a smaller local centre located between Mill Hill and Burnt Oak. Following the guidance set out in the Town Centre Offer above, local ward councillors submitted a bid to the Hendon Area Committee on 26 October 2016 to improve footfall to the area which was approved. It is expected that improved signage to and from Deansbrook Road will be implemented in the first half of 2017 following the completion of a short feasibility study that’s being funded through the Area Committee budget.

3.5 Key areas for this theme next year (details in the Forward Plan)

- We will work with the GLA to jointly develop and fund town centre frameworks for **improving Edgware and Golders Green town centres** in a way that reflects the significant infrastructure and housing potential of these two areas in the coming years.
- Resources will be secured to implement the delivery of the forthcoming **Finchley Church End** Strategy.
- We will ensure that our approach to supporting town centres and town centre businesses is increasingly reflected in the council's key planning guidance policies, in particular the forthcoming Local Plan and the new Corporate Plan.
- We will continue to support **Town Teams and other local groups** such as neighbourhood forums to take a greater leadership role in their local areas
- We will continue to explore **innovative new approaches and models for improving our town centres** and to securing investment in them.
- Building on its initial success, we will expand the types of guidance available to local groups such as town teams in the **Town Centre Offer**.

3.6 *Fit for purpose infrastructure and transport networks*

- 3.7 2016 saw significant investment in new technology in the borough that will make it easier for residents and businesses to thrive. **The council secured an investment of £20m from Virgin Broadband to deliver a new high speed broadband to 40,000 homes in the west of the borough** between Friern Barnet and Chipping Barnet (and including much of both these areas). Virgin has noted that the Entrepreneurial Barnet approach positively influenced their decision to invest in Barnet. Physical works are expected to start in early 2017 and to be completed by the end of 2017.

3.8 Key areas for this theme next year (details in the Forward Plan)

- We will continue to promote the **use of technology to improve town centres** and local growth, particularly in relation to making parking easier, improving access by businesses and residents to high speed broadband, and to using technology to improve the experience businesses have when undertaking transactions with the council.
- We will work with TfL and the GLA to ensure that planned **infrastructure investments in Golders Green and Edgware town centres** are undertaken in a way that benefits Barnet businesses and residents.
- More broadly, we will work to protect the unique characteristics of the borough's different town centres, preserving what's best, making improvements where possible, and addressing longer-term weaknesses or issues of concern to local traders and residents.
- Delivery of **high speed broadband to 40,000 homes** in the borough through Virgin's "Project Lightning".

4.1 **THEME C: Skilled Employees and Entrepreneurs**

4.2 This theme focuses on skills development and employment support in the borough, recognising that having a workforce with the right skills, behaviours and a sense of entrepreneurialism is essential to unlocking economic growth.

4.3 ***Supporting residents to develop the skills they need to succeed***

4.4 Supporting workless residents into sustainable employment is a key outcome of Entrepreneurial Barnet, and a number of new initiatives this year have driven some positive progress in this area;

- The **WorkFinder** project, delivered by Groundwork, was launched in April 2015 and is designed to support 55 long-term unemployed residents into work over a 2 year period with a focus on the Barnet regeneration estates. The has achieved 32 into work outcomes so far, with further Barnet residents having been supported into work through local work clubs, delivered as part of the project.
- **S106 Employment and Training obligations** outline that property developers make provision to train Barnet residents. Partnership working enables Barnet applicants to enter employment and training with a range of developers and training providers. Construction Training Initiative (CTI) obligations for work placement may also be included.
- **Support on regeneration estates is providing a coordinated skills and employment offer** in Dollis Valley, Stonegrove and Grahame Park, with an additional service to be implemented in West Hendon.
- Along with other West London Alliance boroughs we have piloted a community rooted jobs team in Burnt Oak. The multi-agency team, called **BOOST provides support for long-term unemployed and aims to increase incomes**. As of October this year, 654 people have signed up to BOOST and 258 have found employment under the BOOST project.
- The multi-agency **Welfare Reform Task Force have continued to provide support to residents affected by Welfare Reforms**.
- There has been continued investment by Public Health in health and employment support for people with mental health needs.

4.5 ***Working with employers to develop a skilled workforce***

4.6 The council and its partners continue to work together through Entrepreneurial Barnet to ensure that education and skills provision locally meets the needs of employers and that those who live or study in Barnet have opportunities to develop the skills the market demands.

4.7 The **Opportunities for Young People** project was launched in 2015 in partnership with the West London Alliance. In September 2015 new targeted support programmes for young people aged 14-18 at risk of becoming Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) were trialled. The success of the programme is currently being evaluated. Key findings to date have included:

- 113 pupils at risk of becoming NEET engaged with in Barnet
- Models of delivery in re-engagement programmes that involved a wrap-round service across organisational boundaries were a success
- Employer engagement was an important aspect of the project

- 4.8 A key emerging recommendation from the research is that the Project is scalable and should be rolled out to more schools across West London.
- 4.9 This year, Barnet has worked with colleagues across the West London sub-region to understand the skills needed in the West London economy and how best to deliver them, as part of a national **review of post-16 education and training** institutions. The review recognises that we need to work together to provide a clear message for colleges operating in West London, including Barnet and Southgate College, about the skills demanded by our residents and businesses.
- 4.10 Our approach to the area review has provided a valuable opportunity to think strategically about the role of the further education sector in the economy. National government has recognised the importance of this strategic approach and the strength of the existing West London Alliance and so agreed that the review in West London could be led locally, with Barnet taking a leading role.
- 4.11 The London-wide area review will be concluding at the end of 2016. Barnet, along with our colleagues in the Further Education sector are committed to continuing the work started by the area review to work together to ensure residents and businesses have the skills they need to thrive well into the future.
- 4.12 In April 2017 the national “**Apprenticeship Levy**” will come in to force, requiring any organisation (both private and public sector) with a pay bill in excess of £3m per annum to allocate a percentage of its budget to the delivery of apprenticeships. We will work with employers in Barnet as well as education providers to ensure that we respond effectively to the opportunities presented by the Levy to create quality careers for residents.
- 4.13 Alongside the Area Review, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced in the 2016 Autumn Statement that government funding for the national Work and Health programme would be devolved to West London. Barnet will work alongside its partners West London Alliance boroughs through the West London Economic Prosperity Board to establish a sub-regional skills commissioning function that focuses on engaging with employers to understand current and future skills needs in the population, and colleges to ensure a high quality workforce with the skills to succeed.
- 4.14 Encouraging a culture of entrepreneurship**
- 4.15 Finally, we are currently running the second annual “**Entrepreneurial Barnet competition**” in partnership with Middlesex University and Barnet and Southgate College. The intention is to give local people and students who are either thinking of starting a business or have recently established one the opportunity present their

business care to a professional panel, and to win a cash prize that has been donated by a private sponsor.

- 4.16 Barnet and Southgate College are working with Hammerson and Microsoft to deliver a two week **Pop Up Business School** for budding entrepreneurs in December 2016. This interactive and engaging programme will support people to get their business ideas off the ground.

4.17 A healthier workforce

The Barnet Public Health team have promoted the London Healthy Workplace Charter amongst local businesses. In November 2016 a 'Health and Wellbeing in the Workplace' business engagement event promoted the charter and other tools available for businesses to promote health and wellbeing. The Public Health team have also produced a web page to share resources.

- 4.18 Areas not yet completed that should have been

- The West London Alliance trailblazer scheme for better coordinated mental health and employment services, which places employment advisors in local mental health teams, is due to launch in December 2016.
- As part of the Healthy Workplace Charter, the London Digital Mental Wellbeing service, commissioned by Barnet Council, has been delayed and will go live by Summer 2017 This resource will be shared with local businesses as part of ongoing engagement work around the healthy workplace agenda.

4.19 Key areas for this theme next year (details in the Forward Plan)

- Work with sub-regional partners to explore opportunities for further investment into health and work support.
- Support employers and public services (including the council) to make best use of the Apprenticeship Levy to deliver high quality apprentice opportunities.
- Implement the West London Alliance Skills Escalator model to support those in low wages to increase their income through wage progression.

THEME D: Access to Markets

- 5.1 This theme relates to supporting businesses and voluntary sector organisations to access public sector contracts and procurement activity, and generally to engage with the local supply chain.

- 5.2 Over the last year, significant progress has been made in these areas, including;

- A number of **business events** have been undertaken over the year, engaging with over 200 businesses in total and giving information and training about how to access the council supply chain through the Procurement Portal.

- In November 2016 the council and its partners in CSG agreed to develop a new Barnet **Business Directory** with Burrows Communications. This directory will be in place in by Autumn 2017 along with a “**Barnet Business” Magazine and website**, providing a highly accessible, professional “front door” for businesses and entrepreneurs looking to locate to or invest in the borough. This activity will be supported by advertising and so will not have any associated cost to the council or wider public sector.
- Council officers continue to **attend regular meetings of the North London Federation of Small Businesses** to address any queries from local businesses relating to procurement or supply chain issues, and to provide an accessible way for businesses to engage with the council.

5.3 Key areas for this theme next year will be in completing the Barnet Business Directory and magazine, increasing the value of council spend with local suppliers, and continuing to engage with and be accessible to local businesses that want to engage with the local supply chain. A review of the councils procurement priorities will also be undertaken in 2017, with the aim of improving the involvement of local businesses with the council supply chain.

THEME E: Business Growth

6.1 This theme is about making sure that businesses and entrepreneurs who are looking to either establish themselves or grow have access to the information, advice, space, and networks they need to do this. In 2016 the following activity has taken place:

6.2 *Businesses able to access the support they need*

6.3 2016 has seen significant progress made in the development of a Barnet “**Business Hub**” that will in 2017 make **work space available to micro-businesses and entrepreneurs** in the Borough through the council’s Localities Strategy, using available space in some council buildings located in or close to the boroughs larger town centres. Alongside this there will also be a strand of activity to provide mentoring and business support services to local businesses, independently of the physical workspace.

6.4 In addition, a portion of the ground floor of the council’s **new offices in Colindale** will be made available to local start-ups and micro-enterprises, once construction has been completed in 2018.

6.5 The intention is that council officers will engage with external organisations with proven experience running such spaces and an exercise will be undertaken to identify the most appropriate one.

6.6 In addition to creating incubator space for local entrepreneurs, this programme will provide an income generating opportunity for the council in the form of rent generated by its estate.

6.7 Finally, the Committee will note it’s previous discussions about **high growth potential “Gazelle” businesses** and the need to identify these and support them to expand. The intention is that these businesses may be given access to business hub spaces at a subsidised rate and also provided with additional support such as

business mentoring and marketing advice to support their success within the borough.

6.8 In addition, 2017 saw the completion of an insight project (summary in appendix one of this report) to understand the cause of the relatively high rate of business failure in Barnet. This analysis has been completed. The core message from this analysis is the borough's relatively high business failure rate is because there are higher levels of the sorts of businesses that tend to fail than the London Average, not that it is less friendly to business on average. This finding is useful because it allows us to focus attention on identifying and supporting high growth potential businesses, rather than on addressing business failure which does not appear to be a cause for concern but rather a product of the borough's particular mix of businesses.

6.10 Key areas for this theme next year (details in the Forward Plan)

- Delivery of a network of **small business incubator spaces** in the borough making use of under-utilised council buildings located in town centres. A more detailed report on this will return to the committee for its consideration in mid-2017.

7.0 Items in last year's forward plan but not yet delivered:

Theme	Title	Description	When will it be completed by
E	Barnet Business Directory	Commission a printed business directory and website that local businesses can register with at no cost to the council. Local businesses have identified this as an important tool on a number of occasions	The agreement for developing this has now been signed and the business directory will be in place by September 2017
E	Implement business hub	Implement the business hub development as set out in 6.3 – 6.6	This will be delivered via the council's "Localities Strategy". It is anticipated the hubs will be in operation by November 2017.

8.1 FORWARD PLAN OF ACTIVITY FOR 2017

Theme	Title	Description	Timescale
A	Businesses finding it easy to transact with the council	Increasingly closer working with the wider council's "Customer Transformation Strategy" to embed a customer focused and technologically enabled approach to all aspects of business transactions with the council	Ongoing for several years, completion by 2019
A	Business engagement	Continued partnership working with local business networks to respond to	Ongoing

		business queries quickly and accurately as they arise and to ensure the council understands the key issues and concerns of the local business community.	
B	A Local Plan that supports local businesses and entrepreneurs	Focus on developing a refreshed “Local Plan” for Barnet that has a greater focus on employment space, town centres, and place-making, and is linked to the council’s Corporate Plan and resource allocation.	Throughout 2017
B	Town Centre Offer expansion	Building on its initial success, we will expand the types of guidance available to local groups such as town teams in the Town Centre Offer. New guidance will include how to access funding, how to get hanging baskets and town notice boards, and Christmas lighting.	January 2017
B	Finchley Church End (Finchley Central)	Completion of a Town Centre Strategy for Finchley Church End that recognises the future growth potential of the local area. Work with GLA to secure resources to implement the strategy.	March 2017
B	Implementation of Burnt Oak Project	Following a significant period of consultation in 2016, the implementation of the Burnt Oak strategy will see the completion of the Burnt Oak Project including the delivery of public realm interventions.	March 2017
B	North Finchley	The creation of a North Finchley Town Centre Area Framework SPD will provide the scope to gather additional evidence to make recommendations on the shape of proposed developments within the town centre and support the ongoing prosperity of the North Finchley Town Centre.	Commencing in 2017, ongoing for several years.
B	Town Centres and Transport Infrastructure	We will work with TFL and the GLA to ensure that planned investments in Golders Green and Edgware town centres are undertaken in a way that benefits Barnet businesses and residents.	On-going
B	Using technology to support growth	We will continue to develop our “smart cities” approach to use technology to improve town centres and local growth, particularly in relation to making parking easier, improving access by businesses and residents to high speed broadband, and to using technology to improve the experience businesses have when undertaking transactions with the council	On-going

C	Apprenticeship Levy	Large employers make good use of their levy and smaller businesses benefit from the co-investment model	From April 2017
C	mental health and employment trailblazer	An externally funded programme to support people with common mental illness back to work using an evidence based programme	December 2016
C	Social investment in health and work	Additional investment into employment support for those with health barriers to employment	Ongoing
C	Launch of the Skills escalator	Support for people who are on a low wage through IAG and access to a training budget	January 2017
D	Business Directory	Completion of Barnet Business Directory and magazine	September 2017
E	Business incubator space	Delivery of business hubs across Barnet in 2017 making maximum use if under-utilised council buildings	October 2017
E	Council Offices in Colindale	Creation of small business space in part of the ground floor of the councils new offices in Colindale, once it is completed in 2018.	2018
E	Business Competition 2017	This will be the third year that this competition, delivered in partnership with Middlesex University and Barnet & Southgate College, has taken place	December 2017
E	Business Support Service	In conjunction with the business workspace offering, the borough will implement a business support service initially targeting high growth potential "gazelle" businesses, offering targeted support to these businesses to support their success in the borough. The exact provision of services will be developed alongside the development of the workspace provision to ensure that duplication of offering is minimised.	November 2017
E	Economic Insight Research	Following on from research completed this year into business failure (see Appendix One), we will refresh the evidence base for Barnet's economy to better understand the businesses, residents and economic drivers in the borough.	December 2017

9.1 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

9.2 Entrepreneurial Barnet is focused on delivering a range of activities that will collectively make the borough the best place in London to be a small business. This annual update reflects progress made in year two of the five year life of Entrepreneurial Barnet. It is appropriate to recommend that the progress to date is noted and proposals in the Forward Plan are agreed and implemented.

9.3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

9.4 The purpose of this annual update is to enable the Committee to review progress and to consider the forward plan. The alternative is not to give an annual update which would weaken the ability of the Committee to track progress and ensure the Entrepreneurial Barnet strategy is delivered along the lines it agreed in December 2014.

9.5 POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

9.6 Following the Committee, work will commence to deliver the objectives within the forward plan and the individual areas of activity within each theme. Partnership work is essential in achieving the objectives set out in Entrepreneurial Barnet and work will continue with Middlesex University, Barnet and Southgate College, the Department for Work and Pensions, and Barnet Homes.

9.7 Individual decisions relating to particular elements of the 2017 work plan will return to the committee on a case-by-case basis.

9.8 IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

9.9 Corporate Priorities and Performance

9.10 The implementation of Entrepreneurial Barnet directly supports the delivery of the Corporate Plan 2016-2021, particularly the following priority areas:

- There will be a broad offer of skills and employment programmes for all ages
- Residents will see a responsible approach to regeneration, with thousands of new homes built and job opportunities created
- Barnet's local environment will be clean and attractive, with well maintained roads and pavements, flowing traffic, increased recycling and less waste sent to landfill

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

9.12 Specific areas within Entrepreneurial Barnet that have financial implications (e.g. business hubs) will be brought to the Assets, Regeneration and Growth

Committee on a case by case basis. The current work programme is being managed within existing council resources.

9.13 Social Value

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

9.15 The Entrepreneurial Barnet strategy contributes social value through improving people's experience of public space and town centres, creating jobs and supporting residents into employment, improving education, promoting health and wellbeing, and ensuring local businesses are able to engage with the council and secure and sustain council contracts.

9.16 Legal and Constitutional References

9.17 There are no specific legal issues associated with this Annual update. The proposals are in line with the Localism Act (2011), and particularly the General Power of Competence given to local authorities.

9.18 Council Constitution, Responsibility for Functions, Annex A- details the terms of reference of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee-which includes 'Engagement with the business community and measures to support local business' and 'To approve any non-statutory plan or strategy within the remit of the Committee that is not reserved for Full Council or Policy and Resources.' In addition, Annex A –The Assets Regeneration and Growth Committee has responsibility for "Asset Management. – all matters relating to land and buildings owned, rented or proposed to be acquired or disposed of by the Council. Where there are land and property implications for the council, the authorisation thresholds and asset disposals must be authorised by the Assets Regeneration and Growth Committee. The committee has a role to develop strategies which maximise the financial opportunities of growth, and which promote skills and enterprise.

9.19 Risk Management

9.20 There is a risk that if the forward plan is not realised then the vision of Entrepreneurial Barnet will not be realised and the range of benefits as envisaged by the economic strategy e.g. higher business satisfaction with the council and the borough as a place to do business, or lower employment etc. will not come to fruition.

9.21 Equalities and Diversity

9.22 An EIA was undertaken on Entrepreneurial Barnet as a part of its

development in 2014, and the result was that a slight positive impact was identified from the analysis. Individual projects commissioned within the framework of Entrepreneurial Barnet will be equality impact assessed on a case-by-case basis.

9.23 Consultation and Engagement

9.24 No consultation or engagement was required as part of this decision and future consultation and engagement will take place for individual projects as required e.g. in relation to town centres improvements or business hubs.

9.24 Insight

9.25 Insight data has been used to inform the update on progress to date and to identify areas for improvement, for example to identify the reasons for business failure, or to understand the causes of unemployment in the borough. Barnet's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) is being used to inform decision making relating to Entrepreneurial Barnet, and can be found at: <https://www.barnet.gov.uk/jsna-home>

9.26 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee Report, 15 December 2014
<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s19842/Entrepreneurial%20Barnet%20Report%20-%20Publish.pdf>
- Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee town centres Report, 16 March 2015
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s21967/Town%20Centres%20in%20Barnet.pdf>
- Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee Annual Report , 30 November 2015:
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s27635/Entrepreneurial%20Barnet%20Annual%20Update.pdf>
- Entrepreneurial Barnet page on the council's website:
<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/citizen-home/business/Entrepreneurial-Barnet.html>

APPENDIX One: Business Failure Analysis summary findings

(attached separately)