

	<h2>Adults and Safeguarding Committee</h2> <h3>19 September 2017</h3>
Title	Local Account – 2016-2017
Report of	Adults and Communities Director
Wards	All
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	Appendix A: Draft 'Your Local Account of Barnet adult social care services 2016-2017'
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Summary

Local Accounts are annual reports intended for local residents, service users and their carers, which set out the work and achievements of the local authority's adult social care service. Barnet's Local Account is submitted to the Adults and Safeguarding Committee for approval, prior to publication.

Recommendations

1. That the Committee approves the annual Local Account for publication on the Council's website.

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1 The Barnet Local Account of adult social care services gives an update on the progress Adults and Communities have made in 2016-2017, and plans for 2017-2018 and beyond.
- 1.2 The Local Account is intended primarily for service users, carers and local residents.
- 1.3 The document describes:
 - the Council's work against local and national priorities
 - how services were developed during the year and areas the Council is working to improve
 - challenges faced, and how these are being addressed
 - feedback from service users and carers on their experience of Adult Social Care services.
- 1.4 The Local Account includes sections covering support to individuals and to carers, how the Council works with partners to keep people safe, the approach to improving the quality of social care services and how the Council listens to people and keeps them informed.

2 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 There is no statutory duty to publish Local Accounts but it is considered to be good practice to have comprehensive annual report published for adult social care.

3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 None

4 POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 Following approval from members the Local Account will be published on the council website and be communicated internally and with key stakeholders.

5 IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 This report invites members to approve the annual Local Account for publication on the Council's website.

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

5.2.1 In addition to continuing budget reductions, demographic change and the resulting pressure on services pose a significant challenge to the council. The organisation is facing significant budget reductions at the same time as the population is increasing, particularly in the young and very old population groups.

5.2.2 The Local Account includes key facts and figures, including how money is spent on adult social care services.

5.3 Social Value

5.3.1 N/A

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

5.4.1 There is no statutory duty to publish Local Accounts but it is considered to be good practice to have a comprehensive annual report published for adult social care.

5.4.2 The [council's Constitution, in Part 15 Annex A, Responsibility for Functions, states](#) the functions of the Adults and Safeguarding Committee, including:
(12) To receive reports on relevant performance information on Delivery Units providing services under the remit of the Committee.

5.5 Risk Management

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

5.6 Equalities and Diversity

5.6.1 The general duty on public bodies is set out in section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

5.6.2 A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- a) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- b) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
- c) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

5.6.3 Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:

- a) Remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;

- b) Take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- c) Encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

5.6.4 The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.

5.6.5 Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, the need to tackle prejudice; and promote understanding.

5.6.6 Compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favourably than others but that is not to be taken as permitting conduct that would otherwise be prohibited by or under this Act.

5.6.7 The relevant protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

5.6.8 It also covers marriage and civil partnership with regard to eliminating discrimination.

5.6.9 In agreeing the Corporate Plan, the council is setting an updated strategic equalities objective and reiterating our commitment to delivering this. The strategic equalities objective is as follows:

- Citizens will be treated equally, with understanding and respect, and will have equal access to quality services which provide value to the tax payer.

5.7 Consultation and Engagement

5.7.1 N/A

6 BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 N/A