

Three-councillor wards



Background



- Between May 2018 and January 2020, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) carried out a statutory review of the London Borough of Barnet's electoral arrangements.
- The last review of the borough's ward boundaries was in 1999, since then Barnet's population has grown significantly (and will continue to do so).
- The LGBCE review set out to:
 - Establish electoral equality all councillors representing approximately the same number of electors
 - Promote community identity strong ward boundaries that represent communities
 - Allow effective and convenient local government coherent wards with good internal transport links.



LGBCE review - final outcomes:

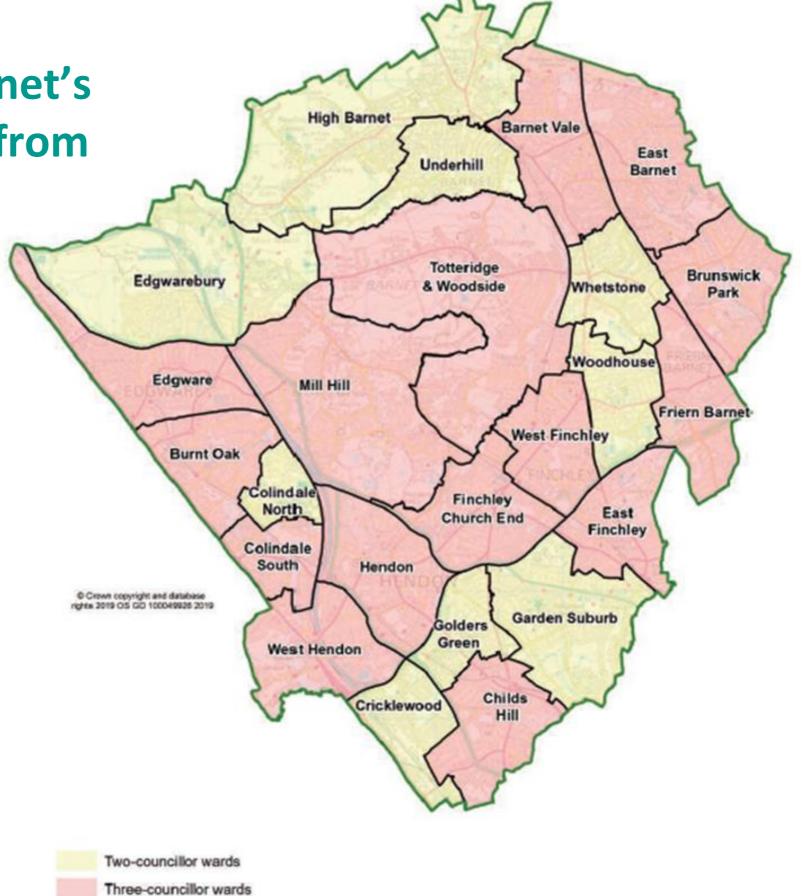
- Barnet will continue to be represented by 63 councillors
- Number of wards increased from 21 to 24 wards
 (15 three-councillor wards and 9 two-councillor wards)
- Every ward has boundary changes (none remain exactly as now!)
- New electoral arrangements will come into effect at the Local Government elections on 5 May 2022.



London Borough of Barnet's new Ward boundaries from 5 May 2022

New wards: Barnet Vale, Cricklewood, Edgwarebury, Friern Barnet, Whetstone

- Coppetts, Oakleigh, Hale will no longer exist
- Colindale becomesColindale North and Colindale South
- Totteridge becomes Totteridge and Woodside





Current and new ward arrangements

	Existing Ward Arrangements				
	Ward Name	Number of Councillors			
1	Brunswick Park	3			
2	Burnt Oak	3			
3	Childs Hill	3			
4	Colindale	3			
5	Coppetts	3			
6	East Barnet	3			
7	East Finchley	3			
8	Edgware	3			
9	Finchley Church End	3			
10	Garden Suburb	3			
11	Golders Green	3			
12	Hale	3			
13	Hendon	3			
14	High Barnet	3			
<i>15</i>	Mill Hill	3			
16	Oakleigh	3			
17	Totteridge	3			
18	Underhill	3			
19	West Finchley	3			
20	West Hendon	3			
21	Woodhouse	3			
	TOTALS	63			

	Recommended Ward Arrangements				
	Ward Name	Number of Councillors			
1	Barnet Vale	3			
2	Brunswick Park	3			
3	Burnt Oak	3			
4	Childs Hill	3			
5	Colindale North	2			
6	Colindale South	3			
7	Cricklewood	2			
8	East Barnet	3			
9	East Finchley	3			
10	Edgware	3			
11	Edgwarebury	2			
12	Finchley Church End	3			
13	Friern Barnet	3			
14	Garden Suburb	2			
15	Golders Green	2			
16	Hendon	3			
17	High Barnet	2			
18	Mill Hill	3			
19	Totteridge & Woodside	3			
20	Underhill	2			
21	West Finchley	3			
22	West Hendon	3			
23	Whetstone	2			
24	Woodhouse	2			
	TOTALS	63			



What will the changes mean for the Council?

Electoral Services

- Polling places and polling districts must change to serve the new Wards
- Electoral Register to be updated (as published by Ward and Polling District)
- Delivery of local elections (for example Count arrangements) to be revised

Governance and decision making

- > Proportionality; member and political party engagement affected
- > Area based committees, Resident Forums revised to reflect new arrangements

Operational delivery of services

- Delivery of services by ward areas for example Street Cleansing?
- Insight Data collection and comparison by ward
 - For example Public Health (COVID19 reporting is currently Ward based)

Resident and stakeholder engagement

Raising awareness of the changes - many residents will be in a different ward!



Timeline

Key Activity	Date	Description
 Parliamentary approval of London Borough of Barnet (Electoral Changes) Order 2020 (after 40 sitting days) 	16 Sept 2020	The Order became legislation for the new electoral arrangements in Barnet.
Constitution & General Purposes Committee	4 Oct 2021	Presenting 1 st draft of new polling district and polling places – for CGP Committee discussion and feedback
 Consultation on proposed polling places and polling districts 	Oct-Nov 2021	Public consultation inviting comments on the proposed polling places and polling districts for the new wards
• Constitution & General Purposes Committee	6 Jan 2022	Final polling district and polling places report – for CGP committee final approval.
• Publication of Register	1 March 2022	Publication of register in time for Local Election 5 May 2022
Local Government Elections Polling Day	5 May 2022	
Annual Council	May 2022	Following the local elections, new councillors will be allocated to committees



What will the changes mean for service development and delivery?

- Delivery of operational services and processes based around wards, localities or Lowerlayer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) will need to be reviewed
- Partnership or commissioning arrangements may need to be revisited if ward or 'Place' based
- Ward based intelligence gathered and used to inform future policy or service development will need comparison of old verses new
- Services delivered area based operating model (e.g. on the 3 parliamentary boundaries)
 to allow a more balance split of workload, will need to be revised
- Local and national reporting comparisons could be impacted year to year
- New Ward boundaries potentially splitting regeneration and new build development sites



How will your organisation be affected?

- Consider the implications of the new ward arrangements in your organisation, in terms of:
 - Governance arrangements
 - Operational delivery
 - Use of ward-based data insight and comparisons
 - Ward based local area profiles i.e. population, identify issues to plan delivery of services, etc.
 - ➤ Ward councillors will change mix of 2 and 3 councillors representing the different wards



New warding arrangements are coming!

Be prepared:

- Speak to your services/teams about the ward changes and identify possible areas of impact
- Discuss what needs to happen in preparation for the new wards
- Think about what information/support/insight you may need to implement the changes
- Develop a plan of activity to deliver the changes
- Don't leave it too late!



Useful Websites:

- Local Government Boundary Commission England www.lgbce.org.uk/barnet
- Barnet Council <u>www.barnet.gov.uk/your-council/electoral-review-barnet-ward-boundaries</u>



Further information

- Barnet Council Project Lead to implement the new warding arrangements:
 - Emily Bowler, Head of Assurance and Business Development (emily.bowler@barnet.gov.uk)
- Electoral Services
 - John Bailey, Head of Electoral Services (john.bailey@barnet.gov.uk)
- Governance
 - Andrew Charlwood, Head of Governance (andrew.charlwood@barnet.gov.uk)
- Barnet Council Insight and Intelligence Team
 - Yogita Popat, Head of Organisational Insight and Intelligence (yogita.popat@Barnet.gov.uk)

