



Adults and Safeguarding Committee

7th March 2022

Title	Fit & Active Barnet Framework 2022-2026
Report of	Chairman, Adults and Safeguarding Committee
Wards	All
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	Appendix 1 – Fit & Active Barnet Framework (2022–2026) Appendix 2 – Report of Consultation Findings Appendix 3 - Fit & Active Barnet Implementation Plan 2022-2023 Appendix 4 – Equalities Impact Assessment
Officer Contact Details	Courtney Warden, Service Manager; Sport & Physical Activity courtney.warden@barnet.gov.uk Laura Thornton, National Management Trainee laura.thornton@barnet.gov.uk

Summary

On 11th January 2022, the Adults and Safeguarding Committee approved the draft Fit & Active Barnet (FAB) Framework 2022-2026, and to commence public consultation, which subsequently took place between 12th January to 9th February 2022 via the Councils consultation platform, Engage Barnet.

Following consultation, the final Fit & Active Barnet (FAB) Framework 2022-2026 is being presented to Committee for approval. The Framework, which has been amended in light of consultation feedback, is attached at appendix 1.

The report of the consultation is at appendix 2. The findings have been considered in the finalisation of the Framework and implementation plan.

The Framework is supported by an implementation plan, shown at appendix 3, which details a series of actions that will contribute to achieving the vision of a 'more active and healthy borough'. The implementation plan is owned by the FAB Partnership. The plan will be further refined as the work programme is developed and will be refreshed annually.

An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed on the Framework (appendix 4). This assessment concluded that there is a positive impact for those with protected characteristics.

Officers Recommendations

- 1. The Adults and Safeguarding Committee approves the final version of the Fit & Active Barnet Framework (2022–2026) (appendix 1).**
- 2. The Adults and Safeguarding Committee review and note the report of the consultation findings (appendix 2).**
- 3. The Adults and Safeguarding Committee review and note the Fit & Active Barnet implementation plan 2022-2023 (appendix 3).**
- 4. The Adults and Safeguarding Committee review and note the findings of the Equalities Impact Assessment (appendix 4).**

1. Why this report is needed

- 1.1 On 11th January 2022, Adults and Safeguarding Committee approved the draft Fit & Active Barnet (FAB) Framework (2022-2026). Committee also approved the draft Framework to commence public consultation via the Council's consultation platform, Engage Barnet. Printed copies of the survey were available on request.
- 1.2 Building on the engagement undertaken to support development of the draft Framework, the public consultation took place over a four-week period, 12th January 2022 to 9th February 2022.
- 1.3 The consultation was promoted through the following channels:
 - Targeted posts via social media platforms e.g., Facebook and Twitter
 - Emails to the FAB Partnership (representatives of the sport, physical activity, leisure, health, education and the voluntary, community and faith sectors)
 - Emails to clubs and community groups delivering sport and physical activity in Barnet
 - Promotion amongst London Borough of Barnet staff communication channels
 - Articles within the following e-newsletters:
 - o Barnet First (35,000 subscribers)
 - o Barnet Schools Circular
 - o Strategy Bulletin
 - o Communities Together Network
- 1.4 A total of 73 respondents participated in the consultation.
- 1.5 Responses have been analysed and are presented in the consultation report (appendix 2).
- 1.6 The consultation results show that the majority of respondents were positive about the draft Framework and its proposed direction. However, the consultation highlighted some areas for consideration, which have as a result been amended in the final Framework.
- 1.7 Summary of key recommendations from the consultation analysis:

- Vision: unchanged, due to high levels of agreement.
- Guiding principles: reviewed the drafting of the guiding principles to improve clarity.
- Aims: reviewed each aim for amendments, based on areas raised as important to consultation respondents.
- Interventions to deliver the Framework: the consultation provided a range of suggestions that respondents thought would contribute to the delivery of the aims.

1.8 Feedback from the consultation resulted in the following amendments to the Framework:

- Enhanced references to ‘everyday movement’ and activities that contribute to physical activity e.g., formalised sport, walking, cycling, dancing, active play, and gardening
- Amendments to the guiding principles:
 - Principle 1 - amended to better reflect the importance of physical activity beyond traditional ‘sports’ providers
 - Principle 3 – sustainability and the importance of delivering across the life course have been incorporated
 - Principle 4 – the word ‘*challenge*’ has been replaced with ‘*reduce*’, i.e., invest time to understand and *reduce* barriers...’
 - Principle 5 – sustainability has been incorporated
- Links between local and national policies have been strengthened in the document.
- Further context has been included relating to disproportionality in physical activity levels and access to opportunities amongst demographic groups
- Strengthened the commitment in the Framework to ensuring that demographic groups who are disproportionately affected are engaged through targeted interventions
- The following Place commitment (Aim 2) the phrase ‘*enhancing community spaces*’ has been replaced in the final document with ‘*optimise the use of active environments* through the delivery of targeted physical activity interventions’
- Inclusion of content to show how the Framework will support active travel (Aim 2)
- ‘Ensuring sustainable delivery and engagement’ has been incorporated within the Partnerships section (Aim 3).

1.9 Where respondents disagreed with the contents of the Framework, the main reasons were:

- Active travel – the commitment to active travel and how we intend to deliver this agenda through the lens of physical activity has been further defined within the Framework
- Affordability– the commitment to understanding and reducing barriers to physical activity (of which affordability for residents is one) is referenced within the Framework. This has been enhanced within the Partnerships (Aim 3) section as a key focus for the FAB Partnership
- Accessibility (particularly for disabled people) – this has been addressed within guiding principle 2; ‘promote equality and reduce inequality’. Our commitment to addressing

levels of disproportionality experienced by disabled people in access to physical activity opportunities has also been strengthened

- Community safety – making Barnet a safe place to be physically active will be delivered primarily by the Community Safety strategy. FAB will support the achievement of the strategy outcomes
- Parks and open spaces – the importance of parks and open spaces and their role in providing a space for physical activity, and achieving health and wellbeing outcomes, has been addressed within the Place (Aim 2) commitments. FAB will support delivery of outcomes and priorities identified within the borough's Parks and Open Spaces strategy.

- 1.10 The need to reference funding and investment was also provided as a 'disagreeing' comment. The Partnerships section (Aim 3) of the Framework references the importance of working collaboratively to maximise opportunities, in addition to optimising investment opportunities.
- 1.11 As well as being used to amend the final Framework document, the consultation findings will be used to inform the ongoing development of the implementation plan.
- 1.12 The Sport England Active Lives survey information has also been updated in the final Framework. This follows the release of the May 20/21 results which saw Barnet increase to 61.6% of residents aged 16 and over who are active for at least 150 minutes per week (from 60.5% within the Nov 19/20 survey). Barnet has seen the largest increase in physical activity levels across all London boroughs since the survey launched in Nov 2015/16 (4.4%).
- 1.13 The FAB Implementation Plan 2022-2023 (Appendix 3) has been developed collaboratively by members of the FAB partnership. It identifies a series of actions to achieve the vision of 'a more active and healthy borough'. This high-level plan will be further developed over the course of the year and will be refreshed annually.
- 1.14 An Equalities Impact Assessment (Appendix 4) has been completed on the Framework. The assessment concluded that there is an intended positive impact across all protected characteristics.
- 1.15 FAB aims to increase physical activity levels across the borough for all residents. However, the Framework acknowledges that to achieve this, the levels of disproportionality experienced by demographic groups in relation to physical activity levels need addressing. Reducing inequality in access and continuing to improve the physical activity offer for all parts of the community is therefore a key priority for the Framework and the FAB partnership. This will be achieved by targeting interventions, using insight and co-designing opportunities with residents to make physical activity an accessible and attractive choice.
- 1.16 It should be noted that the borough already offers targeted interventions that seek to support residents with protected characteristics to lead more active and healthy lifestyles, for example:
 - Gender specific swim and gym sessions, which also accommodate cultural and religious needs

- Subsidised activities and leisure centre memberships for children and young people, older people, disabled people, carers, children in care and care leavers, and those in receipt of eligible benefits
- Pre- and post-natal activities
- Inclusive facilities and activities for disabled people and those with support needs e.g., Inclusive Fitness Initiative accredited leisure centres, dementia swimming, Barnet Mencap Fit2gether
- Activities for people aged 55 and over delivered by Better (55+ Club) and Age UK Barnet Fitness

2. Reasons for recommendations

- 2.1 The FAB Framework (2022-2026) and implementation plan (2022-2023) will encourage new partnerships and improve opportunities in sport and physical activity across the borough.

3. Alternative options considered and not recommended

- 3.1 None

4. Post decision implementation

- 4.1 The FAB Framework and implementation plan will launch from 1st April 2022. A progress report will be submitted to the Adults and Safeguarding Committee annually, with quarterly updates included in the Committee performance report.

5. Implications of decision

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 The FAB Framework supports the delivery of the Barnet Plan (2021 – 2025) 'Healthy' priority. As physical activity supports the achievement of wider social, economic, and environmental outcomes, the Framework also contributes to the achievement of other priorities within the plan.
- 5.1.2 Implementation of the Framework supports delivery of the Barnet Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy (2021-2025), in addition to other key policies e.g., the Long-term Transport Strategy (2020–2041), Parks and Open Spaces Strategy (2016), and the Children and Young People Plan (2019 –2023).

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

- 5.2.1 As public sector resource, capacity and investment faces significant pressure, the importance of collaboration to maximise opportunities and sustainability is vital.
- 5.2.2 The Council's Greenspaces and Leisure service will seek to maximise the impact of partnership resources in the borough and pursue external funding opportunities where available.

5.3 Legal and Constitutional References

5.3.1 In accordance with the Councils Constitution, Article 7 (Committees, Forums, Working Groups and Partnerships), Section 7.5 (Responsibility for Functions), the terms of reference of the Adults & Safeguarding Committee includes the following responsibilities;

- Responsibility for all matters relating to vulnerable adults, adult social care, and leisure services;
- Work with partners on the Health and Well Being Board to ensure that social care, interventions are effectively and seamlessly joined up with public health and healthcare and promote the Health and Well Being Strategy and its associated sub strategies; and
- To receive reports on relevant performance information (including The Barnet Group Ltd, Your Choice Barnet performance) and risk on the services under the remit of the Committee.

5.4 Insight

5.4.1 Data and insight have been used to support development of the Framework and will continue to be reviewed during its implementation to ensure interventions are targeted and effective. This will include feedback from residents, networks, and partners.

5.5 Social Value

5.5.1 A report by the Sport Industry Research at Sheffield Hallam University concluded that every £1 spent on community sport and physical activity generates nearly £4 for the English economy. The report concluded that investment into physical activity creates a return across health and social care, improves wellbeing, builds stronger communities, and develops skills in the economy¹.

5.5.2 We will continue to utilise the social value calculator (developed by 4Global, Experian & Sheffield Hallam University) to measure social value based on regular participation within Better leisure facilities. Between April 2019 - March 2020, the leisure management contract indicated a social value of £10,019,791 (averaging £284 per participant). This is measured across a range of outcomes including improved health, improved subjective wellbeing, increased educational attainment, and reduced crime.

5.6 Risk Management

5.6.1 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.

5.6.2 The FAB Partnership and the Greenspaces and Leisure service will ensure that appropriate risk management is in place to mitigate risks associated with delivery of

¹ <https://www.sportengland.org/news/why-investing-physical-activity-great-our-health-and-our-nation>

interventions that support implementation of the Framework.

5.7 Equalities and Diversity

5.7.1 A core aim of the new Framework is to create equal opportunities for all residents to become more active, and tackle inequalities in access. An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed as set out in 1.14 – 1.16.

5.7.2 Decision makers should have due regard to the public sector equality duty in making their decisions. The equalities duties are continuing duties they are not duties to secure a particular outcome. The statutory grounds of the public sector equality duty are found at section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 and are as follows:

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;

c) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

5.7.3 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 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.

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

5.7.5 Having 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 to the need to:

a) Tackle prejudice, and

b) Promote understanding

5.7.6 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. The relevant protected characteristics

are:

- a) Age
- b) Disability
- c) Gender reassignment
- d) Pregnancy and maternity
- e) Race
- f) Religion or belief
- g) Sex
- h) Sexual orientation
- i) Marriage and civil partnership

5.8 Corporate Parenting

- 5.8.1 The implementation of the FAB Framework will support the Councils Corporate Parenting Commitment through the delivery of interventions such as the FAB Card and its additional benefits to carers (including foster carers), looked after children, and those who are care experienced.

5.9 Consultation and Engagement

- 5.9.1 The refreshed Framework has been developed through a series of engagement methods:
 - Virtual workshops with partners and colleagues across the Council. These provided an opportunity for partners and colleagues
 - One to one discussions with partners and Council colleagues
 - Presentations and discussions at networks such as the Barnet Community & Voluntary Sector Forum, Communities Together Network, Barnet Children's Partnership Board, and the Covid-19 Health Champions
 - Focus groups with residents to understand the importance of physical activity, awareness of opportunity and barriers to participation from a resident's perspective. Groups engaged included older people, disabled people, young people from the Barnet Youth Board and Unitas, members of the LGBTQ+ community and Covid-19 Health Champions. Engagement also took place with representatives from Faith groups via one-to-one interviews. Each focus group included a diverse mix of individuals from White and BAME communities
 - Grassroots club engagement session to learn more about the sport and physical activity provider landscape in the borough, and to receive input on the Framework development
 - Four-week public consultation via the Councils consultation platform, Engage Barnet platform (12th January to 9th February 2022).

5.10 Environmental Impact

5.10.1 The FAB Framework will support the achievement of the Barnet Sustainability Strategy Framework and the Long-Term Transport Strategy (2020-2041) through the coordination and delivery of active travel interventions, such as walking & cycling, and promoting everyday movement in the borough.

6. Background papers

6.1 Adults & Safeguarding Committee report, 11th January 2022: Draft Fit & Active Barnet Framework (2022-2026)

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s69413/Draft%20Fit%20Active%20Barnet%20Framework%202022-2026.pdf>