

	<h2>Health and Wellbeing Board</h2> <h3>19th January 2023</h3>
Title	Barnet Food Plan 2022-2027
Report of	Director of Public Health and Prevention
Wards	All
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	<p>Appendix I – Barnet Food Plan 2022-2027- final version</p> <p>Appendix II – Barnet Food plan 2022-2027 on a page</p> <p>Appendix III – Barnet Food Plan- Engagement Report</p> <p>Appendix IV - Barnet Food Plan- Equality Impact Assessment</p> <p>Appendix V - Barnet Food Plan summary presentation</p>
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Summary

The Barnet Food Plan 2022-2027 draft has been presented at Health and Wellbeing Board in September 2022 alongside a consultation plan. We have incorporated the feedback from residents and stakeholders into the strategic document and action plan, and completed an equality impact assessment

The Plan brings together the vital opportunities and challenges presented by the multi-faceted role that food plays in our lives. It builds on experience and considers changes over the last few years and therefore expands on the scope of the previous Barnet Food Security Action Plan to address the key challenges such as the food system, health of the population, health of the planet, food insecurity and the current cost of living crisis.

This report provides an overview of the last steps taken toward finalising the Food plan and includes the final version, the consultation report, the equality impact assessment and summary presentation.

Officers Recommendations

1. That the Board approves the Barnet Food Plan 2022-2027.

2. The Board is invited to provide feedback /comments for the Food steering group who will be responsible for implementation of the Food plan.

1. Why this report is needed

- 1.1 A public consultation has been carried out including an online questionnaire for general public and focus groups or meetings with stakeholder and partner organisations. Their feedback and comments have been incorporated to the Food plan and action plan (Appendices I and II).
- 1.2 The consultation highlighted residents and stakeholders' priorities for the Food Plan, areas needing further data, and areas needing clarification. The overall findings of this consultation were that residents and stakeholders were positive about the draft plan and its proposed direction. A detailed consultation report is added to the report as Appendix III.
- 1.3 The main priorities for stakeholders and residents identified are:
- Addressing climate change issues linked to food production and consumption
 - Ensuring access to healthy and affordable food for all residents
 - Enhancing the food environment in Barnet: Healthier Highstreets and opportunities for community food growing
 - Addressing food insecurity in Barnet
- 1.4 The consultation has provided a number of recommendations and suggestions on how to improve the Food plan. We summarised the recommendations as follows:
- Data: review the Draft Food Plan to identify where more data, including Barnet-specific data can be added. Where data is not immediately available, gathering this data can be part of the actions outlined in the Food Plan. Making explicit the links between the Food Plan and other relevant Barnet Council strategies will also provide context for the priorities and actions outlined in the Plan.
 - Guiding principles and vision: Review the guiding principles and vision statement and ensure that the language used is clear to what the principles mean to the wider population. Consider amending the wording of 'asset-based' as there was some confusion as to what that meant.
 - Actions: Review the actions under each key theme and consider amending some of the actions to include those raised as important to stakeholders and residents.
 - The three themes: Review the three themes and associated actions. Streamline and simplify the thematic areas in line with the priorities of stakeholders and residents. Amending the thematic areas to Healthy People, Healthy Place and Healthy Planet allows for greater emphasis on actions which aim to make Barnet a healthy food *place*, such as community gardening and growing spaces and coordination and support of the local food system.
 - Clarify wording: stakeholders and residents highlighted some phrases and areas of the Food Plan which are not clear. Specific points will be reviewed and clarified.

- 1.5 A basic equality impact assessment has been completed (Appendix IV) to confirm that the proposed actions of the Food plan will not adversely impact people who live, work or study in Barnet.
- 1.6 A summary presentation of the Food plan is included as Appendix V to provide a brief overview of the process leading to the Food plan.

2. Reasons for recommendations

- 2.1 The Barnet Food Plan 2022-2027 will provide the framework for the Barnet Food steering group which is already an established multi-sectoral group addressing challenges in the food system and is responding to food insecurity and cost of living crisis.
- 2.2 The Barnet Food Plan is a wide ranging and ambitious programme of work which utilises partnerships to achieve our vision on Barnet's food system.

3. Alternative options considered and not recommended

- 3.1 The Barnet Food Plan 2023 aims to improve health outcomes of people who live, study and work in Barnet in both the short and short term.
These benefits would be potentially lost if the Health and Wellbeing Board chose not to take a coordinated approach in this area and doesn't approve the Food plan.

4. Post decision implementation

- 4.1 The implementation of the Food plan will formally commence after approval by the Health and Wellbeing Board. The actions of the Food Plan will be implemented as set out in its action plan. A high level action plan is part of the Food plan (Appendix I). The Barnet Food steering group internal work plan includes a detailed delivery plan with actions, responsibilities, timelines and evaluation framework. The Food steering group will report on their progress at future HWBB meetings.
- 4.2 Besides implementation of the Food plan, the Barnet Food steering group will take next steps towards establishing a formal Borough Food Partnership which is a condition to become member of Sustainable Food Places (SFP). The aim of SFP is to achieve a fundamental change in the food system. SFP seeks to catalyse, inspire, and support multi-sector, local partnerships to take a strategic and holistic approach to the sustainable food agenda. This integrated approach has gained increasing recognition, notably with the 2021 National Food Strategy advising that all local authorities should be required to put in place a food strategy in partnership with the communities they serve.
To become a Food Partnership and join SFP, the Barnet Food steering group needs to meet a set of criteria including governance, work plan and track record of meetings. We aim to apply at the next submission round in March 2023.

5. Implications of decision

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 The implementation of the Food Plan will support delivery of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Primarily the actions in the food plan will link to the commitment to create a healthier environment within key area one of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- 5.1.2 The Food Plan will primarily link to the developing Corporate Plan. Actions within the Food Plan include supporting residents to access food, relevant council services and to maximise incomes.

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

- 5.2.1 Implementation of the Barnet Food Plan once finalised and approved will be funded within existing budgets and staffing of the public health directorate, other council departments, partner agencies and Voluntary and Community sector organisations.

5.3 Legal and Constitutional References

- 5.3.1 Article 7 of the council constitution sets out the functions of the Health and Wellbeing Board. These functions are:
- To jointly assess the health and social care needs of the population with NHS commissioners and use the findings of a Barnet Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) to inform all relevant local strategies and policies across partnership.
 - To agree a Health and Wellbeing Strategy (HWBS) for Barnet taking into account the findings of the JSNA and strategically oversee its implementation to ensure that improved population outcomes are being delivered.
 - To work together to ensure the best fit between available resources to meet the health and social care needs of the whole population of Barnet, by both improving services for health and social care and helping people to move as close as possible to a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing. Specific resources to be overseen include money for social care being allocated through the NHS; dedicated public health budgets; the Better Care Fund; and Section 75 partnership agreements between the NHS and the Council.
 - To provide collective leadership and enable shared decision making, ownership and accountability
 - To promote partnership and, as appropriate, integration, across all necessary areas, including joined-up commissioning plans and joined-up approach to securing external funding across the NHS, social care, voluntary and community sector and public health.
 - To explore partnership work across the North Central London area where appropriate.
 - Specific responsibilities for:

- Overseeing public health and promoting prevention agenda across the partnership
- Developing further health and social care integration.

5.4 Insight

5.4.1 Development of the food plan has been guided and supported by research commissioned from University College London and a Needs Analysis produced by the Public Health Directorate. These documents provided insight into national, regional and local trends on food and food security which has been reflected in the draft plan and supported the design of its actions.

5.5 Social Value

5.5.1 We will work to ensure that the actions and ambitions of the plan deliver social value. This includes working as a partnership with the voluntary and community sector to deliver the food plan once it is approved. The planned actions of the food plan should bring benefits to the wider community and the partnership.

5.6 Risk Management

5.6.1 The development and subsequent implementation of the Barnet Food Plan 2022-2027 requires partnership working across the system to effectively deliver its aims and actions. If the council and partners do not engage with the plan and its development, it may lead to poor delivery of the final plan and the partnership-led actions. Poor engagement may lead to failure to agree the action plan.

5.6.2 The following controls and mitigations are in place:

5.6.2.1 The Barnet Food steering group were consulted throughout the development of the plan and have co-ownership of the plan and its actions.

5.6.2.2 A wide range of engagement activities have been and continue to be conducted to ensure partner's views and confirm actions they own in the developing plan.

5.6.2.3 The Steering Group continue to meet regularly to receive and give updates on the plan's development and implementation once approved.

5.7 Equalities and Diversity

5.7.1 The Food plan takes a partnership-working approach to work across the system to deliver its vision. Actions have been included in the plan to focus on communities at higher risk of food insecurity. These include specific ethnic groups more at risk of food insecurity, those at risk of financial vulnerability, migrants and refugees, older adults and people with learning difficulties.

5.7.2 The equalities impact assessment for the Food Plan will be included with the final version for approval in January 2023.

5.8 Corporate Parenting

5.8.1 The Food Plan will include actions that support all residents of Barnet including those

in care and looked-after children. Actions within the plan linking to maximising income, accessing healthy and affordable food and supporting access to council services will support all residents including care leavers.

5.9 Consultation and Engagement

5.9.1 Engagement activities have been conducted and the results are presented in Appendix III.

5.10 Environmental Impact

5.10.1 Actions within the Food plan include those impacting on the environment such as supporting community food growing, tackling food waste and the circular economy. Once the plan is signed off and implemented it is expected to have a positive environmental impact through its actions.

6. Background papers

- 6.1 Draft Food plan 2022-2027. Available at:
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/g11107/Public%20reports%20pack%2029th-Sep-2022%2009.30%20Health%20Wellbeing%20Board.pdf?T=10>
- 6.2 Food Security Action Plan 2019-2022. Available at:
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s55445/Report%20Food%20Security%20Action%20Plan.pdf>