

Workshops

We conducted 3 workshops, with findings coded into areas that all relate to poverty and follow up survey which focused on defining poverty in Barnet.

Attendees	#
Assistant Director / Head of Service	9
Manager / Lead	22
Officer	8
Facilitators	2

Attendee directorate	#
Strategy & Resources	12
Public Health	8
Customer & Place	6
Children & Families	5
Barnet Group	5
Adults	3

1. Based on the below, what is the best definition of poverty in Barnet? If none of the provided options seem suitable, please provide an answer in 'Other'

- 0 % People in relative low income – living in households with income below 60% of the median in that year.
- 0 % People in absolute low income – living in households with income below 60% of (inflation-adjusted) median income in some base year.
- 20 % Poverty is when your resources are well below your minimum need.
- 60 % Poverty entails more than the lack of income and productive resources to ensure sustainable livelihoods. Its manifestations include hunger and malnutrition, limited access to education and other basic services, social discrimination and exclusion, as well as the lack of participation in decision-making.
- 20 %

	SOLUTIONS				CONSIDERATIONS			
LOCAL	<p>Joined up approach</p> <p>Unlock more funding for VCSE</p> <p>Easy access to info / advice / support schemes residents may be entitled to</p> <p>Focus on providing opportunities for young people (training – soft skills, work experience, and education)</p>	<p>Harness local assets to benefit the community</p> <p>Using local people to fill the gaps</p> <p>Business improvement points</p> <p>Offering work experience</p>	<p>Social value in procurement</p> <p>Ward based drop-ins with community based partners – focus on addressing poverty and a new focus on reducing/getting out of poverty long-term</p> <p>Better partnership working; local opportunities, skills, workspace, recruitment, more apprenticeships programmes</p>	<p>Skills / employment / training support</p> <p>Adult social skills support those with health issues / barriers to work</p> <p>Immediate financial support</p>	<p>Getting better insight / data</p> <p>Unexpected expenses</p> <p>Job security</p> <p>Training / communication / easy access of existing opportunities / support schemes residents may be entitled to</p> <p>Low paying jobs</p> <p>Lack of ambition</p>	<p>Understanding data – who is affected, what problem are we aiming / needing to solve</p> <p>Education barriers</p> <p>Spatial inequality</p> <p>Non-attractive work opportunities</p>	<p>No access to upskilling</p> <p>Stigma / not talking about it</p> <p>Mental health</p> <p>Age barriers gaining employment</p> <p>Lack of financial resilience</p> <p>Housing affordability</p>	<p>Transport around LBB / ULEZ</p> <p>How can we address disempowered people to look for work</p> <p>Language barriers</p> <p>Asking questions at all touch points with residents. All staff trained to do this.</p>
NATIONAL	<p>More affordable housing</p> <p>Utilising our London wide networks. I.e. WLA, LGA, London Councils, GLA</p> <p>Coordinating resource eg. Foodbank resources</p>	<p>Raising awareness of the issue</p> <p>Talk to people about lived experience of poverty / integrate service users when we design programmes</p> <p>Exploiting available funding options</p> <p>Good education</p>	<p>Financial planning workshops to young people in schools at early stage</p> <p>Help families get into work affordable childcare with skills & training routes</p> <p>Reducing stigma</p>	<p>Political representation to central government</p> <p>Addressing health inequalities</p> <p>Promotion of London-wide opportunities (bootcamps)</p>	<p>Its not talked about / stigma</p> <p>People have just accepted it. I.e. Can we ever eradicate poverty?</p> <p>Addiction</p> <p>Housing market</p> <p>Negative perceptions of job centre</p>	<p>Gambling</p> <p>Perception</p> <p>Domestic abuse</p> <p>Universal credits not doing its job</p> <p>Lack of careers advice</p> <p>Failure of basic safety net</p>	<p>Greed (personal and corporate)</p> <p>Transient population</p> <p>Economic crisis</p> <p>Inequality</p> <p>Cost of living crisis</p>	<p>Poor governance</p> <p>Drug abuse</p> <p>Out of our control at a local level</p> <p>Benefit changes / stopped</p> <p>Not on National agenda</p>

	SOLUTIONS	CONSIDERATIONS
LOCAL	<p>convey an empowering message, be accountable but also challenge residents -</p> <p>Higher % of social value required in contracts / procurement more social housing</p> <p>Place-Based hyper support in our deprived areas</p> <p>Better partnerships with businesses to offer things like free fruit or healthy food</p> <p>Improve comms - particularly early help hubs, improve partnership working - work smarter re joining and delivering services will also reduce costs</p> <p>Free School Meals</p> <p>Working locally with residents to access things like benefit calculator</p> <p>Reducing business rates/taxes to childcare companies</p> <p>Action plan and demonstrating progress</p> <p>Encourage Barnet businesses to employ locally</p> <p>Adapting threshold requirements for activities like BACE taking action to engage residents to build trust, empathy and understanding</p> <p>Insourcing for more efficiency and efficacy of service delivery</p>	<p>Thinking proactively rather than reactively e.g. better education = better life chances</p> <p>We are reactive rather than enabling people out of poverty</p> <p>Differing needs based on individual circumstances</p> <p>Education barriers</p> <p>Lack of education about support</p> <p>Lack of engagement or knowledge about support</p> <p>Poverty reduction should also involve things like transport links, access to local services and safer communities - not just housing</p> <p>Trapped in benefits cycle</p> <p>Lack and/or removal of funding</p> <p>Housing affordability in Barnet</p> <p>Poor health</p>
NATIONAL	<p>support for start up businesses - creating economic growth and more opportunities</p> <p>Could provide services to help adults upskill, increase and improve training and education</p> <p>Pan-London initiatives / services that operate across neighbouring boroughs</p> <p>Targeting our universal services in a smarter, more proactive way</p> <p>Change policies / lobby</p> <p>there are systemic problems that keep people in poverty then these need to be discussed and challenged transparently</p> <p>People are mistrusting of government, we need to take steps into getting people to see the council as a supporting 'friend'</p> <p>More corporate sponsorships</p> <p>Support with Childcare provision</p>	<p>Socio-economic external impacts (Brexit, COVID 19, Recession)</p> <p>Rising food insecurity</p> <p>Low paying jobs</p> <p>Education barriers</p> <p>Greed (personal and corporate)</p> <p>Ambition to eradicate poverty for future generations is unrealistic</p> <p>In work poverty</p> <p>Stuck on stats, lack of action</p> <p>Lack and/or removal of funding</p> <p>No one definition of what poverty means, it's relative</p> <p>No access to upskilling</p> <p>Multiple factors</p> <p>Lack of incentive to work</p> <p>Cost of living crisis</p>

	SOLUTIONS	CONSIDERATIONS
<p>L O C A L</p>	<p>Choose to commission services / procurement practices that support reducing poverty</p> <p>Supporting ppl to make sure claim benefits entitled to / benefit take up campaigns / signposting to other support - not just financial.</p> <p>London living wage - commit to our staff / all contractors to pay</p> <p>MECC - ensure all frontline staff are aware of support available / able to signpost ppl</p> <p>Council / social housing / providers - have responsibility to give people access to support</p> <p>Utilising technology, data and insight to be more strategic in our approach</p> <p>Using data available to identify 'communities' who may be impacted</p> <p>Partner relationships, both strategic and operational</p> <p>Policies - reduction schemes / support schemes</p> <p>NCL NHS - working in partnership, BC PH has influence</p> <p>Work more effectively with partners to produce a joined-up offer</p>	<p>30 town centres mean we rely on retail and food and beverage businesses</p> <p>High number of residents on benefits</p> <p>Ageing population</p> <p>Lack of large businesses - reducing the amount of money coming into the borough which can be reinvested into the borough</p> <p>Large number of micro businesses and small charities - can't afford to pay more (even if they want to) - minimum wage as opposed to Living Wage</p> <p>Low paying jobs low LLW employers</p> <p>Low paying jobs</p> <p>Transport - hard to move horizontally across the borough</p> <p>Digital exclusion</p> <p>Lack of trust of the council from some communities</p> <p>Administrative complexity</p> <p>Transport - hard to move horizontally across the borough</p>
<p>N A T I O N A L</p>	<p>Adult education programmes</p> <p>Horizon scanning - upcoming legislation so we can put a plan in place to support groups that might be impacted</p> <p>Education in schools on 'financial health'</p> <p>London Living Wage - procurement of services to ensure this is in place and in supply chain - REACTIVE for contracts already in place - PROACTIVE for new ones</p> <p>Council's working better with VCSE to fill those gaps/gap that council can't i.e mental health provision</p> <p>Can influence wider bodies for funding to support regional projects to reduce poverty</p> <p>Lobbying and campaigning government</p> <p>More childcare support</p> <p>Delivering holistic services</p>	<p>Mortgage rises</p> <p>Scapegoating / politicking</p> <p>Cost of living crisis</p> <p>Economic inequality</p> <p>Economic recession</p> <p>Limited resources and limits to statutory influence</p> <p>Funding - i.e., 100% Council Tax benefit funding removed and local Support Schemes introduced placing significant burden on authorities.</p> <p>Housing affordability</p> <p>Low trust in authority (local, regional or national government)</p> <p>Under investment in public services</p> <p>Access to affordable childcare</p>

Priority areas identified

- Procurement and social value
- Evaluate and improve our CoL programme
- Skills, employment and apprenticeships
- Business and economic growth
- London Living Wage borough