

“Fostering means making memories for my children and my foster children.”



WE NEED MORE FOSTER CARERS LIKE RUBY IN BARNET

Contact our team to find out about the different ways you can help care for Barnet's young people.

020 8359 6274 | www.barnet.gov.uk/fostering

#MORE2GIVE



Leader's column

It's great that we are now finally in spring. I'm certainly looking forward to the longer days and evenings, following a particularly cold winter.

I mentioned in my last column that we would be asking you about our proposals for the 2018/2019 budget consultation. I would like to say thank you to everyone who took part and provided their feedback.

I'm pleased to say that once again there will be no increase in general Council Tax. This will hopefully make things that bit easier for residents (Page 8).

Following consultation, we will apply a three per cent social care precept to bills this year, which will be spent exclusively on helping to provide support and take care of our elderly and vulnerable adult residents. We look after 7,000 adults each year, providing them with vital care and support services.

I'm delighted to report that we have broken ground at the new multi-million pound leisure centre at Barnet Cophall (Page 20). This fantastic new leisure centre will provide a range of state-of-the-art facilities.

This is a good time for me to remind everyone of the important role our foster carers play (Page 14). In Barnet, around 330 children live in the care of the council at any one time. These are children and young people in our care through no fault of their own, and, whether they are newborn babies or teenagers, we want the very best for them. We need about 100 new foster carers each year to give our children choices about where they live and with whom.

We witnessed last month the launch of Live Unlimited, a registered charity based on the vision that every child who spends time in care or has left care should have an equal chance to lead a happy and fulfilled life (Page 16). It fills with me great pride to confirm that we are the first local authority in London to launch a charity of this nature.

The recent Young Persons' Survey revealed some really encouraging results (Page 33). The majority of young people (89 per cent) are happy living in Barnet.

It's always nice to finish on a positive and uplifting note.



Richard Cornelius

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Contact us

Barnet First is a magazine filled with local news and community information for the borough of Barnet – issue 73, March 2018.

Alternative formats of Barnet First are available only upon request. If you would like a copy of Barnet First in large print or on tape, please email: barnet.first@barnet.gov.uk

Barnet First is produced by the London Borough of Barnet's Corporate Communications Team.

To contact the editorial team, email: barnet.first@barnet.gov.uk

When you have finished reading our magazine, please recycle.



news

New Data Protection Bill

The Government is making changes to the way it manages your data so that we meet the requirements of the new Data Protection Bill, which will transfer the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation into UK law.

The new law will protect the rights of individuals. To make sure that we continue to handle your personal information in a fair and transparent way, we will be rewriting our current privacy notice in accordance with the new laws. The new notice will provide more details about what information we collect about you, why we collect it, and who we share it with.

A privacy notice can change from time to time and we recommend that you always check the latest notice before you submit any personal information to us, to make sure that you understand how we manage your information. Our new privacy notice will be available by 25 May 2018 at www.barnet.gov.uk/privacy



It's not just councils that need to make changes. Every organisation that processes the personal information of EU citizens must comply with the new European Union data protection law. If you have concerns or are interested in knowing more, the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) is the regulator in the UK and will be able to help you. Visit www.ico.org.uk to find out more.

Make your vote count on 3 May



Barnet Local Elections

Residents have until **17 April 2018** to make sure they are registered to vote in Local Elections being held on 3 May.

Eligible residents who have not yet registered can make sure they are able to have their say in these important elections by visiting www.gov.uk/register-to-vote to ensure they are on the register before the deadline.

To be eligible to vote in Local Elections you must be 18 or over, be British, Irish, or a qualifying Commonwealth or European Union citizen. If you registered to vote at

the General Election in June 2017, and you have not moved house, you do not need to re-register. Don't forget, even if you are registered to pay Council Tax, you are not automatically registered to vote.

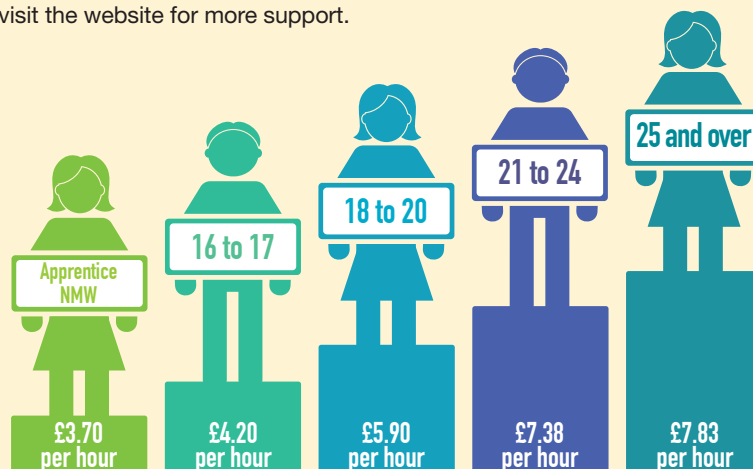
If you are not able to vote in person on 3 May 2018, you can apply for a postal vote. The deadline for applying for a postal vote is 5pm on 18 April. To find out more about how to register and the ways you can vote, visit www.barnet.gov.uk/elections, contact Electoral Services at ero@barnet.gov.uk or phone **020 8359 5577**

An increase in the national minimum wage

The National Minimum Wage throughout the UK will increase from 1 April 2018.

If you are an employee and want to make sure you are receiving the correct wage, you should speak to your employer or check your pay online at www.gov.uk

If you are an employer and want to make sure you are paying your employees the correct wage, visit the website for more support.



news

Electric vehicles available for residents to hire

Improving air quality throughout the borough remains a priority for us and we have taken further steps to achieve this with the addition of five new environmentally-friendly vehicles to our fleet. In partnership with E-Cars, the electric vehicles have been introduced to pilot the scheme and are available for council officers' use, enabling staff to travel across the borough to deliver council services.

The vehicles will also be available for residents to hire. One will be available 24 hours a day, and two more from 6.30pm – 8.30am Monday to Friday and any time over the weekend.

If the pilot is successful we will be rolling out a larger fleet of pool cars for business use for staff as we continue to reduce the carbon footprint in time for our move to Colindale (see page 20).

Once registered, residents will have access to the vehicles on a flexible, hourly basis at just £5.50 per hour or £45 per day.

The fleet reinforces our commitment to be a clean, sustainable London borough by providing a real alternative to private car ownership for residents.

Residents interested in using the low-emission vehicles will need to sign up to E-Car by visiting www.ecarclub.co.uk/bc

For more information about how we are working to improve air quality throughout the borough visit:

www.barnet.gov.uk/ourneighbourhoods



The vehicles will be available to council officers and the public



Councillor Dean Cohen at the launch of E-Cars

Barnet school holiday dates

The holiday dates for schools apply to all Community, Voluntary Controlled, Community Special Schools and Maintained Nursery Schools in Barnet.

Many Voluntary Aided schools and Foundation schools also follow these dates, though some set their own.

Academies and Free schools are free to set their own term dates.

The Easter Holiday runs from Friday 30 March to Sunday 15 April.

Summer Half Term is Saturday 26 May to Sunday 3 June.

Key stage 2 results improve again

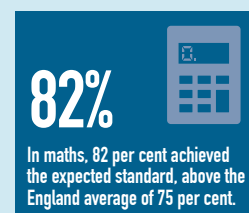
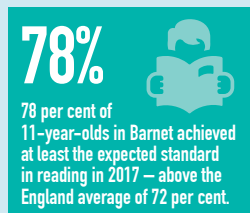
Pupils aged seven to 11 in Barnet enjoyed another year of Key Stage 2 success in 2017.

Annual performance statistics show that pupils achieving the expected standard were again above the national average for reading, writing and maths combined.

They were also above the national average for the separate subjects of reading, writing, GPS (grammar, punctuation and spelling), mathematics and science.

All subjects saw improved results compared to 2016.

The Department for Education statistics show that:



news

Universal Credit Full Service comes to Barnet

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has announced that the Universal Credit Full Service is expected to come to Barnet in May.

While some single people are already claiming Universal Credit under the 'Live Service' model, the changes in May will see couples and families become eligible for the benefit, and roll out of the full Universal Credit digital service.

Universal Credit is part of the Government's wider welfare reform plans which replace six working age benefits with a single, monthly household payment. It replaces Jobseeker's Allowance (income based), Employment and Support Allowance (income based), Working Tax Credit, Housing Benefit, Income Support and Child Tax Credit.

One of the biggest changes is that housing costs (previously called Housing Benefit) are paid directly by the DWP to residents as part of the monthly payment.

We have put support in place for people on Universal Credit, including budgeting and online skills and help with housing and finding well-paid work. Claimants can also apply for financial support in times of crisis – including housing payments, Crisis Funds and Council Tax support or relief.

Barnet Homes tenant Trevor, who is in his 50s and lives alone, was referred to the Welfare Reform Task Force for support with

managing his Universal Credit claim as he was struggling to budget and manage the change to monthly payments.

Trevor was behind with his rent and Council Tax and started to feel less confident with money so met with a Housing Support Officer who helped him put together payment plans that enabled him to begin paying off his debts.

Trevor moved on to an alternative payment arrangement so that the housing element of Universal Credit was paid directly to his landlord and personal funds were paid every two weeks instead of four. This arrangement proved less stressful for Trevor and helped him to budget.

The broader team continued to help Trevor look for work and he was later successful in finding a job with a major supermarket chain.

To apply for and maintain your Universal Credit claim online, visit: gov.uk/universal-credit

For support managing Universal Credit from the Welfare Reform Task Force call **020 8359 2442**, email welfarereformtaskforce@barnet.gov.uk or ask at your local Jobcentre in Barnet or Hendon.

Residents living in social housing should speak to their landlord about money worries as soon as possible.

Fire safety improvements on the way



A fully fire tested and A1 rated non-combustible aluminium cladding system will be installed on three tower blocks at Barnet Homes' Granville Road Estate over the next few months, with the aim of having the work completed by the end of the year.

We have committed an initial sum of £17.5m towards a range of fire safety works across 26 tower blocks, right across the borough which included the removal and re-cladding of the three blocks at the Granville Road Estate.

The replacement system has undergone a full fire test and, with a subsequent fire safety rating of A1 non-combustible, exceeds the requirements of the current building regulations for fire resistance.

Other fire safety works are continuing in the other 23 tower blocks across the borough, such as upgrading fire doors, improving compartmentation between flats and floors, upgrading ventilation systems and improving access in and out of blocks for emergency situations.

Stay up to date on the latest fire safety news across the borough at thebarnetgroup.org

Welcome to OWL

Online Watch Link, or OWL, is a new alerting system brought to you by the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership to keep you and your community updated. The system provides information on local issues, incidents, crime prevention and any other relevant community safety information straight to your email account.

OWL has been used throughout England and Wales for many years and an increasing number of boroughs are beginning to use it to communicate with their residents.

Residents who would like to take advantage of this opportunity will benefit from

receiving up-to-date local information and advice from the police, local authority and Neighbourhood Watch. The system is free, information is stored on a highly secure database and will not be shared with other parties. Keep a look out in future issues of Barnet First for more information about OWL. For more information or to sign up to OWL please visit www.owl.co.uk/met



Signing up to 'My Account' gives you fast and flexible access to your Council Tax account

Once you have signed up, just enter the details on your Council Tax bill to access your account, so you can:

- make a payment and view your payment details
- view your property band and Council Tax bill
- add multiple accounts* for multiple properties.

If you sign up before 30 April you could win an iPad.



think **my** account

*To view existing accounts you will need your account details

†Terms and conditions apply, visit www.barnet.gov.uk/myaccountipad for more details

From reporting a problem to applying for housing benefits, My Account makes it easier for you to access council services. For more information and to sign up, visit www.barnet.gov.uk/myaccount

council tax

Council Tax in Barnet: Our plan for 2018/2019

This week, your Council Tax bill will be delivered to your household and once again we are pleased to say that there will be no increase in your general Council Tax.

We have agreed this to help ease the financial burden on households in the borough. Following consultation, we will, however, apply a three per cent social care precept to bills in 2018/19. The precept will generate an additional £4.9m per year and this will be spent exclusively on helping to provide vital support and to take care of our elderly and vulnerable adult residents.

We are confident that our plans for 2018-2019 will deliver good value, quality local services to support residents and businesses. Based on our principles of fairness, opportunity and responsibility, we are committed to making Barnet a better place for people to live and work.

While we continue to reduce our running costs, £856.8 million will be invested in essential infrastructure such as housing, schools, regeneration, transport, community hubs, and leisure centres between now and 2025.

What is the 3% social care precept?

This year, we have applied a three per cent social care precept to reflect the increased pressure on adult social care, as more people in Barnet are living longer with long-term health conditions and disabilities.

The precept will provide residential and day care for older people including those with dementia and will also help to pay for services which help individuals look after themselves such as lunch clubs and befriending services.



We have successfully saved **£144m** between 2010 and 2017, whilst maintaining high levels of resident satisfaction



We are committed to taking care of our neighbourhoods and we will continue to deliver services that help to keep our neighbourhoods clean and green, from our parks and open spaces to our streets.

See more on page 10.



We are committed to supporting people and families to help to make Barnet the most family-friendly borough in London. Through our interventions, we are helping our residents to live independent, healthy and happy lives.

See how on page 11.

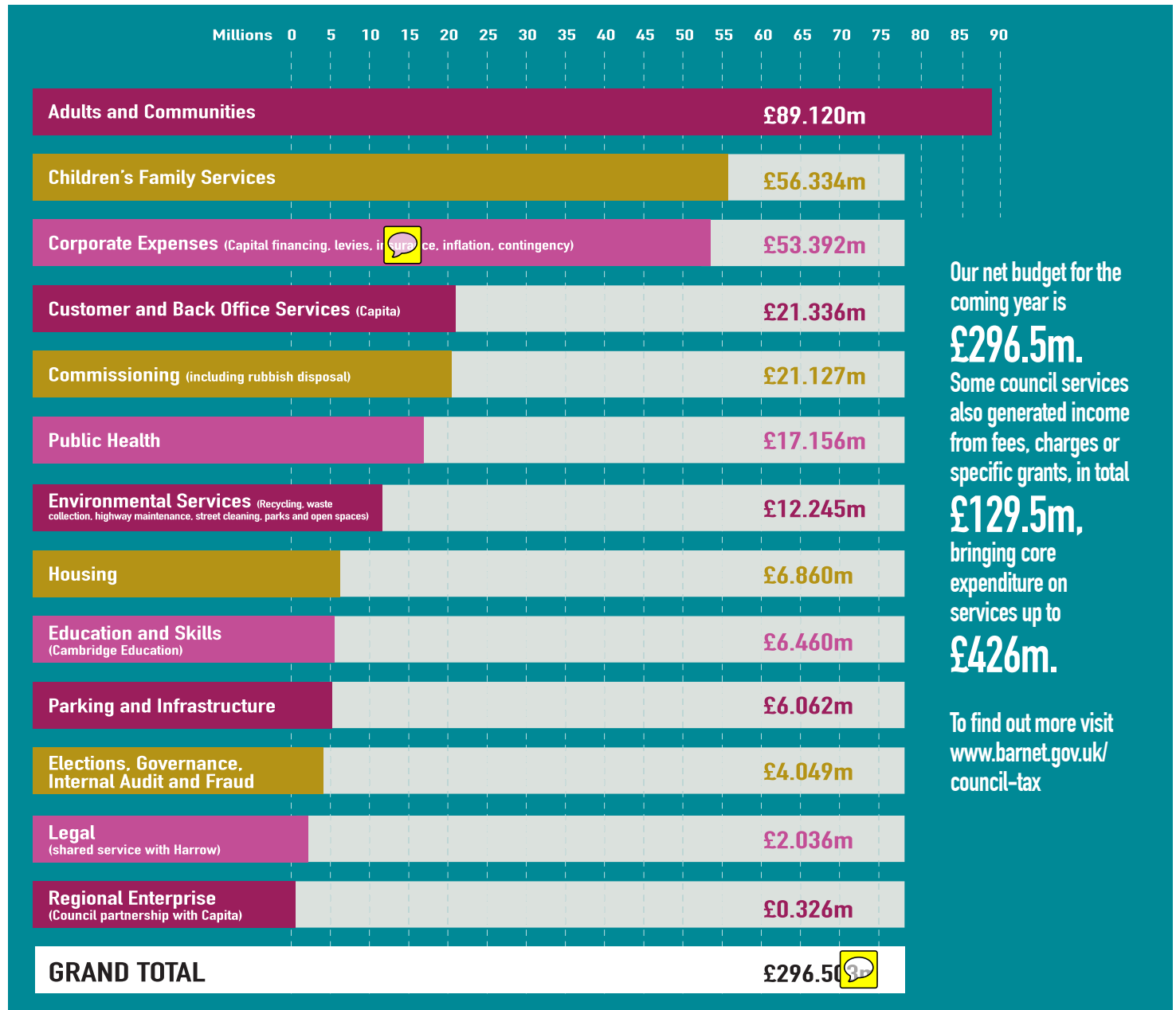


We are committed to planning for the future of the borough through responsible regeneration and maximising the opportunities that come from redevelopment across the borough.

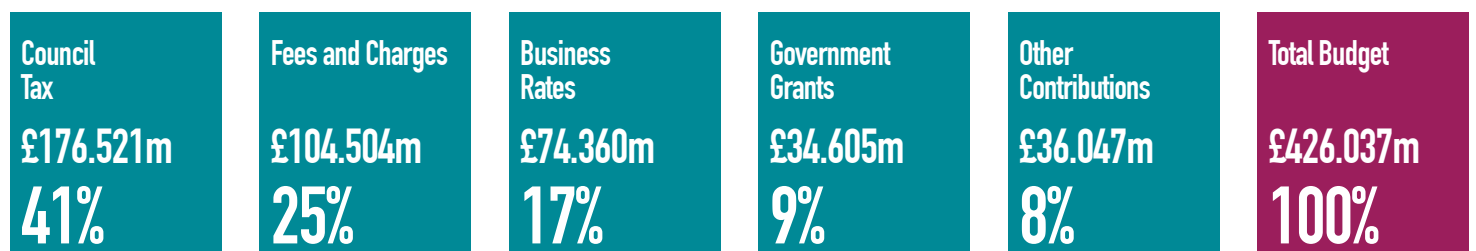
Find out more on page 12.

council tax

How our money is spent



Where our money comes from



council tax

We are committed to keeping Barnet a great place to live and work

That means continuing to deliver good value local services that we know you rely on, like efficient refuse and recycling collections, whilst also planning for our future.

Taking care of neighbourhoods

We know Barnet is a great place to live. We will continue to keep our neighbourhoods clean and green and will work hard to make it even easier for you to travel around the borough safely: this includes a £50m investment in road and pavement improvements, a £1.5m commitment to repair potholes and a £400,000 investment in electric vehicle charging points. We will also take tough action against those who damage our environment and will fine or prosecute anyone caught littering or fly-tipping.

Since April 2017 we've...

Resurfaced and improved
77 roads and **20**
pavements across
the borough



Removed
5,100 fly-tips

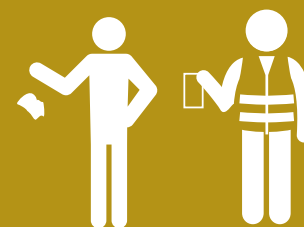


Collected **110,000**
tonnes of household waste

Recycled or composted
40,000
tonnes



Repaired
1,150
potholes



Issued nearly **5,000** fixed
penalty notices for littering
and fly-tipping offences

Supporting people and families

Helping people and families to support themselves will help to make Barnet the most family-friendly borough in London. To make Barnet an even better place to live, we continue to work closely with our partners, the health service and job centres to support our residents to live independent, healthy and happy lives, assisting people into work and providing extra support for those who need it most.

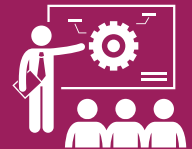
In 2017, we celebrated the valuable contributions that our residents make to Barnet through their work in the community. Thank you to everyone who helps to make Barnet a great place to live.

What we provided in 2017...

60,000 instances of advice and information to residents



Of **207** care leavers aged **16-25** years, more than half are in education, employment or training and living independently in their own tenancies, many living within Barnet Homes tenancies



We helped over **1,700** people into work through our active employment programmes and working with partners

We launched **LIVE UNLIMITED**, a charity to support looked after children and care leavers



LIVE UNLIMITED
INSPIRING BARNET'S LOOKED AFTER YOUNG PEOPLE TO THRIVE



We pledged over **100** apprenticeships across the borough



We helped **7,000** adults during 2017/18 through our adult social care services

100% of school children who applied on time were offered a school place



Through our crowdfunding initiative, eight successful projects launched, raising **£219,463** from the community, **£14,180** of which was pledged by the council



council tax

Planning for the future

We are maximising the opportunities that come from redevelopment and investment in Barnet and creating new homes, jobs, and thriving family-friendly communities. The proceeds from development enable us to invest in community facilities and essential infrastructure such as homes, schools, transport, community hubs and leisure centres.

We are delivering...



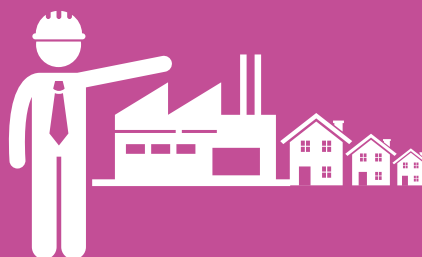
£856.8m

capital investment will be invested in transport, schools and community facilities to benefit new and existing residents by 2025



27,000 new and replacement homes by 2025, including over **400 homes** being built by the council and The Barnet Group by 2020

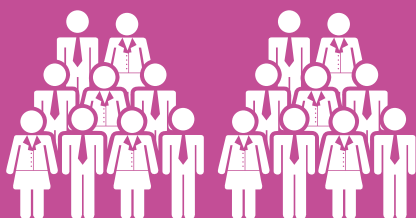
Over £6billion private sector investment in housing and infrastructure



£4.2m Youth Zone facility in Burnt Oak to be completed by **2019**

30,000 local jobs

will be created by 2025



Seven major regeneration schemes are transforming the borough

2 new leisure centres to be completed in 2019, investing **£41.5m**



Have you set up your Direct Debit?

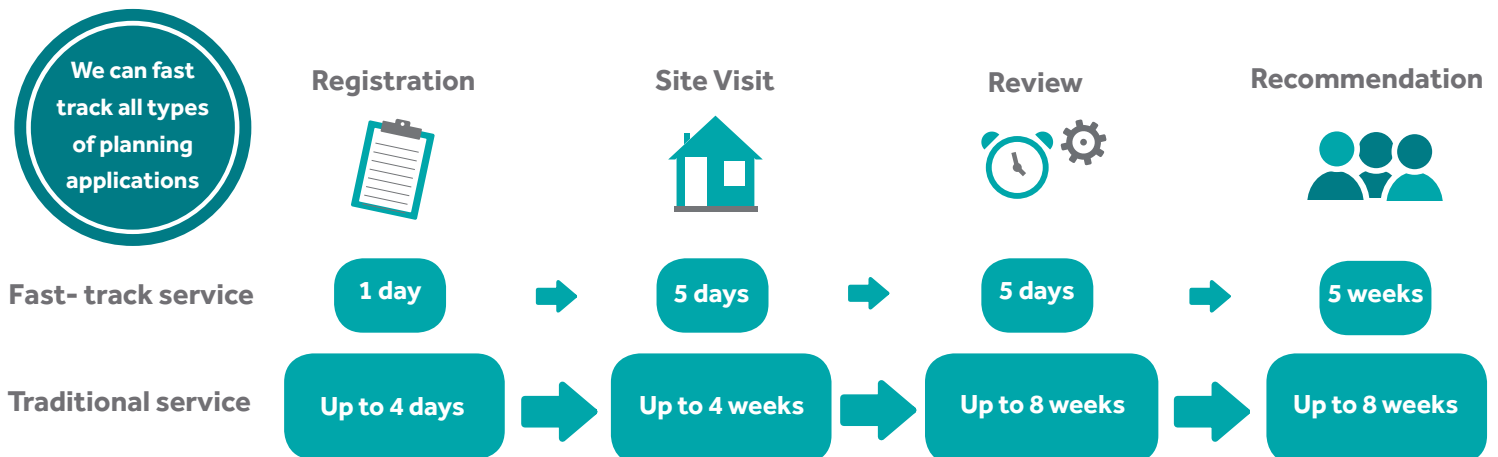
It's the fastest, most efficient way to pay your Council Tax



It's safe, it's convenient, it's cost effective. Set up your Direct Debit online at www.barnet.gov.uk/directdebit

Making a planning application or need planning advice?

We offer a fast-track service to speed up your planning application, giving you guaranteed timescales allowing you to begin work on your project more quickly.



✉ planning.premium@barnet.gov.uk

☎ 020 8359 3320

SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW ABOUT FOSTERING?

THERE ARE LOTS OF WAYS THAT YOU CAN HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THE LIFE OF A YOUNG PERSON IN BARNET.

We need a range of carers for our children in care. Fostering comes in many forms and some of these you might not have considered before, so we'd like to shed a light on the many ways you can get involved to give our children in care the support that they need to help them fulfil their potential.

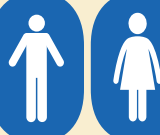
We are especially keen to find homes in Barnet that can accommodate sibling groups so that they can stay together, in the school that they know, and close to connections that they have made within the borough.

**OVER
330**



**CHILDREN ARE BEING
LOOKED AFTER BY
THE COUNCIL**

100



**WE NEED ABOUT
100 NEW FOSTER
CARERS EACH YEAR**





HERE'S SOMETHING THAT YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW.
 Not all foster carers do the same thing. There are lots of different types and they all offer our children a safe and stable home. So read on and find out if there's a best fit for you and make the move to change a life today.

SUPPORTED LODGINGS
 Ideal for those who have a home and could consider taking an older teen as a lodger; a young person aged 17+ who is not quite ready for full independence. The role of the carer is to provide much-needed company, guidance around work and basic life skills.
 You will have training and the full support of the fostering team. Average local rent will be paid on behalf of the young person.

RESPITE OR LINK FOSTERING
 This would suit adults who could give up the occasional weekend on a regular basis – linking with families who care for a child with a disability. Our current foster carers who help in this way always talk about what a wonderful experience this is – helping a family in need and making new friends with many families linking up for years.
 We provide fees, allowances for respite care, full training and support.

SHORT TERM FOSTER CARERS
 Adults who can provide immediate and emergency care for children coming into care in a crisis, being there right from the beginning.
 This could involve fostering children from newborn through to 17-year-olds for a day to a year – caring for them, parenting, encouraging their relationships with their family, taking them to school and general parenting duties. Fees and allowances are paid, full support and training is provided.

LONG-TERM OR PERMANENT FOSTERING
 These will be children who are unlikely to return to their birth families and could be in your care for 10 to 12 years. Usually over the age of eight, we particularly need adults who can provide consistent care for brothers and sisters together long-term.
 Full fees and allowances are paid and full training and support is given.

DO YOU HAVE #MORE2GIVE ?

If you think you can offer any of these types of care to our young people please contact the team today:

020 8359 6274 | www.barnet.gov.uk/fostering



Helping our looked after children follow their dreams

We have launched a new charity aimed at helping our looked after children and care leavers fulfil their dreams and aspirations.



LIVE UNLIMITED

How can you help?

To help our young people reach their potential we need donations. You can make a donation online today by visiting liveunlimited.org.uk or if you want to donate your time, an experience or opportunity please contact info@liveunlimited.org.uk

Follow Live Unlimited on Twitter for information and updates: [@LiveUnltdBarnet](https://twitter.com/LiveUnltdBarnet) or on Facebook: facebook.com/LiveUnlimitedBarnet



Graham Construction Ltd cheque presentation with Brett Service and the Mayor, Cllr Brian Salinger

The charity, Live Unlimited, has a vision that all looked after children and care leavers should have equal chances to lead happy and fulfilling lives. Barnet is the first local authority in London to launch a charity like this. As corporate parents we want to give children in our care the same opportunities and experiences children living with their own families have.

Barnet is currently home to 326 looked after children and 207 care leavers. While many children thrive in their new environment, statistically, looked after children tend to have poorer life chances and outcomes than children living with their birth families.

While the council will continue to invest in services for every looked after child, the charity aims to offer the additional activities that families may provide for their children outside school hours, for example football coaching, or music lessons, and theatre, art or sport experiences.

The charity has three main themes:

- encouraging looked after children and care leavers to follow their passions and explore their interests
- equipping looked after children and care leavers with the life skills they need to fulfill their dreams
- inspiring all looked after children and care leavers to succeed beyond their imagination.

One of the ways the charity aims to do this is through the launch of the Imagination Trust which will allow young people to apply for individual small grants for activities such as football or ballet lessons, theatre trips and out-of-school activities.

Charity trustee Brett Service, who is a Barnet care leaver, and now works for Barnet Council, said: “It is a privilege to be part of a charity

that works to inspire Barnet’s young people. As a Barnet care leaver I understand the positive impact the work of Live Unlimited will have on the young people who access the services offered by the charity.” A number of our children attended Live Unlimited’s launch event in February, along with charity trustees including Barnet Council Chief Executive John Hooton, Met Police Detective Superintendent Katie Harber, and Underhill School Executive Headteacher Jack Newton. The Mayor of Barnet Cllr Brian Salinger also attended and talked about the importance of the charity.

Graham Construction Ltd, who donated £12,000 to help kick start the charity, and Saracens RFC who hosted the launch at Allianz Park, were thanked for their support. Barnet Council Chief Executive and Chair of Trustees, John Hooton, said: “Our looked after children and care leavers are incredibly important to us, which is why we want to give each child who spends time in our care the same life chances as everyone else. Live Unlimited is a really great way of helping us to do this.”



The hopes and dreams of some of our looked after children

Healthier Catering Commitment

Last month, five Barnet food outlets were presented with a Healthier Catering Commitment (HCC) Award at a ceremony at London City Hall.

The role of restaurants and food outlets is very important in providing healthy food. The Barnet HCC is a voluntary scheme which recognises food outlets that take simple steps to offer healthier food options for customers.

Deepak Lall, from Chilli Tuk Tuk in North Finchley, who were finalists in the 2017 Asian Curry Awards, said: “At Chilli Tuk Tuk

we are committed to doing our bit to serve food of high quality that is a healthier option at the same time.

“The herbs and spices used in Indian food preparation have long been known to have many health benefits and we have tailored our preparation processes to deliver tasty food without the use of any artificial ingredients or saturated fats.

“We are a proud recipient of Barnet’s Healthier Catering Commitment award and are working with experts to adapt to efficient ways of food preparation and cooking that help us deliver healthier food.”

After registering, there are a number of criteria the businesses need to meet in order to obtain an HCC Award. Successful food outlets receive a certificate and a window sticker to promote their award. They can then progress to obtain a Silver or Gold award from the council.

Many food outlets in Barnet have been visited, assessed and encouraged to make small changes to their menus to provide healthier options. To date, 82 food outlets including cafes, restaurants, takeaways, workplace canteens and fast food outlets in Barnet have registered for the scheme with seven more working towards accreditation.

If you are interested in becoming a HCC business you can contact us on:
Email: foodsafety@barnet.gov.uk



North Finchley's Chilli Tuk Tuk receive their accreditation from Cllr Helen Hart, Chair of Health and Wellbeing Board

New digital book service comes to Barnet

Barnet libraries recently launched a digital book service called BorrowBox.

BorrowBox allows residents to download hundreds of free books around the clock from the very best authors, including Kate Atkinson, Bill Bryson, James Patterson, Ruth Rendell, Kate Morton, Ian McEwan, Jacqueline Wilson and many more.

There is a huge selection of eBooks and eAudiobooks to choose from for adults, children and teenagers; all you need to access them is a valid Barnet library card and your existing PIN. BorrowBox can be used on your smartphone, tablet, iPad or your home computer. Just download the app or access direct from Barnet libraries' website.

There are many other free online resources at your disposal - including digital magazines, language courses, encyclopaedias, newspaper archives, reference sites, help with your driving theory test, life in the UK test and more.

Join your local library

You can apply for either full library membership or e-membership.

Full membership provides access to all Barnet library services. We will send your new details by email, and you can collect your library card from a library you choose.

E-membership gives you access to our online library services, and we'll send you a membership number and a secure PIN. To apply online, you should be aged 16 years or older.

Visit your local library or www.barnet.gov.uk/libraries for more information. For the latest news from Barnet's libraries and information about events follow the team on Twitter or Facebook @BarnetLibraries





Focus on... the Fosters Estate

The Fosters Estate in Hendon, also known as Upper and Lower Fosters, is a late 1960s housing estate with several mid-scale blocks within a green garden landscape. It also includes low-rise sheltered housing which does not meet today's standards in terms of the space and facilities provided.

As part of the Delivering for Barnet regeneration and growth programme, the estate was identified as a potential location for additional housing as it is just behind Brent Street, a local high street with good accessibility to local services, shops and public transport. As the sheltered housing would need to be replaced regardless, it was decided that this should be developed alongside a more comprehensive masterplan for the estate.

The Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee agreed to pilot an innovative co-design approach to the project, working closely and collaboratively with the local community from the very outset. A Community Steering Group, comprising estate residents alongside local business owners, community organisations and residents of the surrounding streets, has been central to the co-design approach, developing the brief for the masterplan, working closely with the design team and helping to decide what to build, where, and how. The Community Steering Group now meet every month to ensure that the community's priorities remain central to the design process.

Discussions with the local community revealed that residents value many qualities of the existing estate and did not wish to see its character completely altered. However, there were areas around the estate they wanted to see improved and changed - particularly around the edges, where it adjoins the backs of the surrounding streets, and unsafe, poorly overlooked spaces have been created.

The existing homes on the site will therefore be retained, apart from the sheltered housing. The aim is to use the disused playground, garages and other spaces on the estate to create new homes, and a better place to live for existing residents in the area. These plans include improvements to public areas on the estate, potentially including new play facilities, a community garden and improvements to currently neglected alleyway areas. Improvements will also be made to the road layout and parking provision.

Some of the biggest benefits that the scheme has been able to deliver so far are around the involvement of the community. Residents involved in the scheme are already developing new skills, building confidence and taking ownership of issues on and around the estate.

Barnet Council's delivery partners Re are delivering the scheme with Barnet Homes. It is hoped that formal plans for the estate will be submitted in the autumn.



A Community Steering Group has been involved in the project since the outset



Focus on... Millbrook Park



New homes and the new Millbrook Park School

Millbrook Park in Mill Hill is seeing the creation of a high quality new suburb in the heart of Barnet.

Planning consent has been granted for 2,240 homes with growth in the area supported through the sale of land to Barry M Cosmetics for the expansion of their Mill Hill East operation.

Over 40 hectares of mainly vacant and disused brownfield land, previously used for industrial purposes, including the former Inglis Barracks and council waste depot site, are being transformed into a thriving new community in an outstanding hilltop location. Around 85 per cent of the new infrastructure required across the site including roads, parks, utilities and landscaping has been completed.

A new three-form entry primary school has now opened as Millbrook Park School. The school also features new community facilities including

a 3rd Generation (3G) artificial grass multi-use games area with floodlighting.

Commerce and employment in Millbrook Park will be boosted by 500 jobs, over 3,000 sqm of employment space and over 1,000 sqm of town centre retail space. The economic needs of local people are supported by apprenticeship opportunities and the creation of Construction Training Initiative (CTI) work placements, with four apprenticeship placements achieved in 2017/18.

Highways and transport will benefit from an upgrade to Mill Hill East Tube Station, enhanced bus services, improvements to key junctions in the area and new access roads.

Millbrook Park also features several new parks, including Panoramic Park providing excellent views across London, and community facilities including a new public piazza opposite the station with retail space for shops and restaurants.



Sustainability has been a key concern of the development with a new permanent energy centre providing heat and hot water to 1,400 homes and the installation of sustainable urban drainage systems, which provide a natural approach to managing drainage. The scheme is being delivered by the Inglis Consortium, a Public Private Partnership made up of Barnet Council, VSM Estates Ltd and Annington Ltd.

Stonegrove Spur Road project nears completion

The Stonegrove Spur Road estate in Edgware will soon become the first of Barnet's major regeneration area projects to be completed.

The area has been completely transformed, creating a new integrated community with 999 new homes, including 451 affordable homes, the re-provision of school and sports facilities and improvements to play facilities, open spaces, roads and infrastructure.

The scheme has also seen the re-provision of church and community centre, One Stonegrove, with a new café and nursery. The needs of residents have been further boosted with skills and job training and the establishment of Stonegrove Community Trust which aims to bring the community together and deliver a full range of activities. The scheme was delivered in partnership with Barratt Evolution Limited and Family Mosaic.



One Stonegrove church and community centre



Future places



In the next few years, Barnet will see the addition of a wide range of new and improved facilities, improvements to open spaces and infrastructure as part of our regeneration and investment programme – Delivering for Barnet.



Ansell Court (Extra Care provision)

Location: Moreton Close, Mill Hill

Description: Work is well underway to build new Extra Care provision in 53 self-contained one and two bedroom apartments, enabling adults with additional care needs to live independently. The development was recently named Ansell Court, in recognition of Mill Hill resident Corporal William Ansell who was awarded the Military Medal in 1918 after losing his life in WW1.

Estimated completion date: Late 2018/Early 2019

New council offices

Location: Colindale, opposite the new Colindale library and Barnet and Southgate College campus

Description: We will begin moving to a new office in the heart of the Colindale regeneration area. The eight-storey building will feature a modern, environmentally friendly design and will become the main office for most council staff and our partners. Whilst it will mainly be a building for staff, residents who need to have pre-planned meetings with officers, such as Family Services and Planning teams, will be able to visit by appointment. The relocation is important to our vision to move closer to the residents we serve. It will provide an economic boost for local businesses and it will also save local tax-payers almost £1m a year in ongoing accommodation costs. This is because we will own the building outright, rather than having to pay rent.

Estimated completion date: Winter 2018



Creating up to
30,000
new local jobs

Building
27,000
new and
replacement
homes

Barnet Copthall and New Barnet Leisure Centres

Location: Barnet Copthall, Mill Hill and Victoria Recreation Ground, New Barnet

Description: Work is underway on two new leisure centres. As part of a £41.5m council investment, and an award of £2m National Lottery funding from Sport England, Barnet Copthall Leisure Centre will be redeveloped and a new leisure centre at Victoria Recreation Ground, New Barnet, will replace the existing Church Farm Leisure Centre.

Work on both leisure centres is expected to be completed by summer 2019 with the existing Barnet Copthall Leisure Centre and Church Farm Leisure Centre remaining open as normal until the new facilities have been completed.

Each new centre will provide residents with a range of state-of-the-art facilities. Barnet Copthall will have a learner pool, a 25m, six lane community pool, a 25m eight-lane competition pool, café, sports hall, health and fitness suite and three health improvement rooms. New Barnet will have a learner pool, a 25m six-lane community pool, café, health and fitness suite, two health improvement rooms, partnership library, new tennis courts and a new multi-use games area.

Estimated completion date: Summer 2019



UNITAS YouthZone

Location: Montrose Playing Fields in Burnt Oak, near to Grahame Park and Colindale

Description: Work to construct Barnet Youth Zone has now started. UNITAS, named by local young people, will be a purpose-built facility for the borough's 8-19 year olds, and for those up to 25 with disabilities. Throughout the development, local young people have been working with OnSide, who run Youth Zones all over England, participating in and influencing brand identity, transportation, fundraising, interior design and even the hoardings that will surround the construction site.

Once completed, young people from across Barnet will have access to fantastic facilities for a £5 annual membership and 50p per visit. The Youth Zone will provide a safe environment where young people can come and enjoy themselves, enabling them to raise their aspirations and confidence to create a happier and healthier generation.

Estimated completion date: Summer 2019



Transforming
Barnet with
7 major
regeneration
schemes



Brent Cross Cricklewood

Location: Brent Cross Cricklewood

Description: One of Europe's largest regeneration schemes, Brent Cross Cricklewood is split into three distinct schemes. Brent Cross London will see a modernised and extended shopping centre, doubling in size with improvements to road infrastructure and cycling and pedestrian access. The Thameslink Station Quarter will feature the new, additional Thameslink station, Brent Cross West, pedestrian, cycling and vehicle links across the railway, and replace outdated waste and freight facilities. Brent Cross South will see a new high street south of the North Circular, including 7,200 new homes, commercial development and new and improved community facilities and public spaces.

Estimated completion dates: 2022 (Brent Cross London), 2022 (Thameslink Station Quarter), 2030 (Brent Cross South)

Investing
£856.8m
in transport, schools
and facilities
by 2025

Improvements to town centres

Location: Across the borough, including our main town centres: Burnt Oak, Cricklewood, Edgware, Finchley Central, Golders Green, High Barnet and North Finchley.

Description: Improved town centre strategies designed not just improve the way our town centres look but also to increase accessibility and support community activity, jobs and businesses on the high street.




Improvements to parks

Location: Across the borough

Description: Several major green spaces will be created or refurbished as part of the regeneration programme. This is in addition to improvements to parks and open spaces across all our regeneration schemes. Brent Cross Cricklewood alone will see seven new or improved parks totalling 65 acres, including improvements to Clitterhouse Playing Fields, Sturgess Park and Claremont Open Space.



 You can read about all our regeneration work at www.barnet.gov.uk/deliveringforbarnet
For the very latest developments follow us on Twitter [@deliver4barnet](https://twitter.com/deliver4barnet)

Please note that the completion dates listed above may be subject to change.



Food for thought

Did you know... around seven million tonnes of food waste is thrown away by households in the UK every year, and most of it could have been eaten? In Barnet, around 35% of the average black bin is filled with food waste - the same weight as 200,000 cows!

Recycling your food waste is easy, saves money and is much better for the environment. By recycling food waste in your brown bin you help to create electricity which is used to power around 31,000 homes and also produce soil fertiliser which is used on local farms.

DID YOU KNOW?

Instead of throwing eggs, cheese and milk away you can freeze them instead!



Here are some top tips to help you recycle as much of your food waste as you can each week:

1. Don't leave it out of sight. Keeping your kitchen caddy on your worktop will help to remind you to use it.



3. Go with what works for you. We're not fussy about how you recycle your food waste! You can use your own container as a caddy if it fits better in your kitchen.

5. Get into the habit. Regularly empty your caddy into your outdoor food waste bin to avoid smells.



2. Every little helps! There is no amount of food waste too small and things like banana skins and tea bags should always be recycled.

4. Liners make it even easier. Why not use compostable liners with the seedling logo; you can buy them from many shops. If you'd prefer, you can recycle your food waste without the compostable liners by putting the food into your caddy loose.



6. Keep the wildlife out. Your brown bin has a lock on it to keep foxes and other animals at bay. Remember to lock your food waste bin by placing the handle in the front position.



DID YOU KNOW?
Six recycled tea bags could produce enough electricity to boil a kettle for another cuppa.

7. Get started now. If you need a food waste bin or caddy you can order online for free. Remember - plastic bags aren't compostable and so can't be used in your food waste bin.

For more information about food waste recycling and to order your food waste bin, visit: www.barnet.gov.uk/foodwaste



How to keep the foxes at bay



1. Make sure your recycling and waste bins are shut properly and that your food waste bin is locked at all times.



2. Rinse all bottles and cans that you put into the recycling bin.



3. Keep all areas around your waste and recycling bins clean and free of clutter as much as possible.



4. Never leave any food, including pet food, uncovered.

Don't be idle

Competition winners remind parents not to idle in their cars to help improve air quality.

We are committed to ensuring everyone in Barnet can live in a healthy, clean and attractive environment and improving the quality of the air we breathe is key to achieving this.

Working in partnership with Re, and their Safe, Sustainable Travel and Environmental Health teams, we recently launched a competition which asked children across the borough to create a poster to encourage parents and carers not to idle in their cars outside the school gates and to do their bit to improve air quality.



We received over one hundred entries all of which were of an extremely high standard, which made the judging very difficult. **Nursery school pupils from Annemount School, Sara Horan-Cashmore Ramm from Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School, Sophia Khan from Moss Hall Junior School and Betty Iamandi from Broadfields Primary School,** were selected as the four winners of the competition.

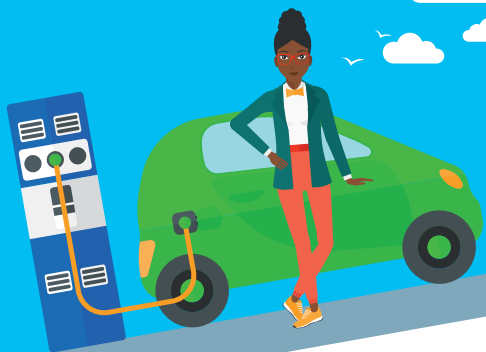
All four winners' bold and eye-catching posters impressed the judges, which included Chairman of the Environment Committee, Councillor Dean Cohen. The judges were particularly impressed by the winners' creative use of materials, catchy messages and bright designs.

DID YOU KNOW?
On Clean Air Day last year, Re's Safe, Sustainable Travel and Environmental Health Teams visited eight schools and talked to over 200 parents.

DID YOU KNOW?
We have set up an electric vehicle car club, allowing council staff and the public to use electric cars.

DID YOU KNOW?
Last year, we planted 612 trees to help improve air quality.

DID YOU KNOW?
We are investing £400,000 in electric vehicle charging points across the borough to help improve air quality.



For more information about our air quality initiatives, please visit:

www.barnet.gov.uk/ourneighbourhoods





Life transformed.

Barnet Recovery Centre

If you, a friend or family member are having problems with alcohol or drugs you can talk to someone at the following Barnet services.

Barnet Recovery Centre is a fully integrated, recovery-focused service dedicated to supporting people with substance abuse issues. It is delivered by WDP, in partnership with CNWL and AIR Sports, in the London Borough of Barnet.

The Barnet Adult's Substance Misuse Service is free and open to all Barnet residents aged 18 or over, as well as their families and carers, and can be contacted at either of their two service locations:

Barnet Recovery Centre (Finchley)

42a Hendon Lane, East Finchley N3 1TT

Barnet Recovery Centre (Edgware)

Ground Floor, Dennis Scott Unit, Edgware Community Hospital,
Burnt Oak Broadway, Edgware HA8 0AD

Tel: **0300 303 2866**

Email: barnet@wdp.org.uk

WDP Barnet Young People's Drug and Alcohol Service (YPDAS) offers support for young people (aged up to 24) who may be affected by drug or alcohol problems. They offer personalised services to meet individual needs, and work across Barnet so that they can come and meet you at a venue which suits you.

WDP Barnet YPDAS

Ground Floor, Dennis Scott Unit, Edgware Community Hospital,
Burnt Oak Broadway, Edgware HA8 0AD

Tel: **0300 303 3169**

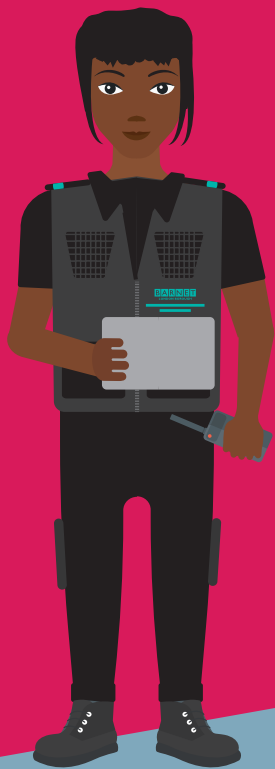
Email: barnetyoungpeople@wdp.org.uk

Secure email: barnet.yp@wdp.cjsm.net



Fly-tipping is a crime.

We may fine or prosecute
anyone caught.



Spotted some fly-tipping? Report it:
www.barnet.gov.uk/report-a-problem



@BarnetCouncil
#ourneighbourhoods 

BARNET
LONDON BOROUGH

supporting local business

Busting the myths around apprenticeships

As we pledge to deliver more apprenticeships, we look at some of the misconceptions around who they are for and what they can offer.

Myth one:

“Apprenticeships are only available for young people”

Apprenticeships are available for anyone over the age of 16. People who are already working can use an apprenticeship to up-skill, for example when becoming a manager. Apprenticeships are also a popular choice for people changing career.

Myth two:

“You can’t get apprenticeships for careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics” (STEM)

Re work with developers to secure STEM based apprenticeships on construction sites across the borough and in roles within the developers’ offices. Over the next 10 years, 300 apprenticeships will be delivered.

Re also works with partners such as Barnet and Southgate College and Apprenticeship Training Agencies to identify new training needs and connect local people to opportunities.

Louise Hogan (pictured below) is a Barnet resident undertaking a Level 3 Electrical Apprenticeship with Beaufort Park’s sub-contractor T. Clarke. Louise’s role includes general site electrical installation work and monitoring health and safety on site, both of which are helping her to gain valuable experience for her final exams and NVQ.

Louise plays for the Deaflympics GB Football Squad but is keen to ensure she balances her apprenticeship alongside her sporting commitments.

Louise said: “I am due to be a qualified within 12 months following completion of NVQ Level 3 and my final practical exam. After that I would want to gain experience with T Clarke over the coming years.

Doing the apprenticeship has given me relevant experience and skills that I may not have gained elsewhere.”

Myth three:

“Apprenticeships are low-level qualifications that do not amount to much.”

Apprentices undertake courses from Level 2 (standard GCSE Level) up to Level 4 and higher (degree level), depending on the apprentices’ current education and skill level.

Wesley Sinfield (pictured below) is an Internal Audit Apprentice in Barnet’s Anti-Fraud Team. Wesley began his apprenticeship in September 2017 and is working towards his AAT Level 4 accounting qualification.

Wesley said: “The option of an apprenticeship seemed the best option. I get on the job experience and a qualification at the same time, all with the opportunity to progress and learn.”

Did you know?
Barnet Council and its partners have pledged to provide
100 apprenticeships

“I get to work on a variety of different projects during my four days in the office and one day a week I go to college where I work towards my qualification.

“I do a lot of field work for different audits, research and planning. I feel quite involved and I’m not just doing admin tasks. I recommend the option to anyone considering it. You don’t always have to go to university!”

There are many apprenticeships to choose from with hundreds of job roles.

You can view our current apprenticeships on the find an apprenticeship website:

www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship

In the UK...

97% of apprentices said their ability to do the job had improved

92% of apprentices said their career prospects had improved

90% Over 90% of apprentices currently go into work or further training

89% of apprentices are satisfied with their apprenticeship

In February, Cambridge Education hosted an Apprenticeship and Post 16 Options event in partnership with Middlesex University. A huge 7,000 Barnet students were invited and it was a buzzing event with talks, employers’ stalls and demonstrations from Middlesex University students, helping young people of the borough make a choice about their next step after school.



Louise Hogan



Wesley Sinfield

supporting local business

On the right path



Barnet-based company Future Path work with unemployed adults to bring about lasting, positive change.



We talked to Kevin Moore, Chief Executive of Future Path.

Q Tell us about your business

A Future Path offers support to people to get back to work. We have 16 staff who work across north and west London. Since working in Barnet we've supported over 350 people into jobs. We work to improve mental health and challenge the stigma associated with mental health through offering courses such as Mental Health First Aid.

Q How do you find Barnet?

A I was a Barnet resident up to 2007 and know the area well. When I created Future Path, Barnet was a natural choice for my office. I work across London and love the quick links into town. There are some great venues to work from in the borough. I really enjoy working in the more deprived areas and I am really pleased to see all the regeneration that is happening.

Q What has been your biggest challenge in business?

A As a small business working with a variety of funders, it's always a challenge to get our cash flow right. We work to make sure funding we secure is relevant and suits our aims.

Q How did you get involved with the council?

A I attended a local mental health and employment networking meeting and made connections with the local Jobcentre. This led to us bidding for a short-term contract to pilot a new approach.

Q How has the council supported or helped your business?

A Over the past 10 years I've travelled around the country working with organisations like mine and helping them grow. Barnet Council has been so different - most importantly through their enthusiasm to open doors and join us up with relevant

departments. The council helped give us the opportunity to take part in the Healthy Workplace Charter. This raised the profile of our organisation across London and gave us a solid framework to be able to offer a healthy environment for our staff.

Q What advice would you give to anyone starting out in business?

A Money and premises - make sure that you have the core income needed to stay afloat, look at alternative office options such as working from home and shared workspaces. If you do need a larger office, check out what their plans are long term and always have a plan B.

To find out more about Future Path, visit www.future-path.co.uk, call 0300 302 0077 or email info@future-path.co.uk

If you would like to find out more about the Healthy Workplace Charter, please visit our website: www.barnet.gov.uk/business

volunteering

Barnet Furniture Centre



The Barnet Furniture Centre is the first and only furniture reuse project in Barnet that provides low-income families with affordable furniture.



How it works

The Barnet Furniture centre's voucher scheme for low income families goes hand-in-hand with a two-tier pricing strategy. Vouchers enable those who are referred from Barnet Homes to receive free furniture and the two-tier pricing strategy allows those that are in receipt of benefits to be given a discount on already low-cost furniture.

Could you lend a hand?

Expand or rediscover your skill sets from carpentry, painting, upholstering and upcycling furniture to answering phones, administration and helping in the warehouse. Find out how you can get involved by visiting the website, www.barnetfurniturecentre.org, or by calling 020 8361 6802.

Want to donate?

A collection service operates in Barnet and surrounding areas. Visit the website for more information.

FACT

Since opening its doors in 2011, breathing new life into old furniture has enabled the centre to divert over 650 tonnes from landfill.



"Working a part-time role meant I had some spare time on my hands. I thought, what is it I could do that's going to be useful in the community? I stumbled across the Barnet Furniture Centre and they were looking for volunteers. It fits perfectly with everything I wanted to do so I decided to get involved." **Veronika Harris, volunteer**

Volunteering opportunities

Volunteering in Barnet

Get involved in your local community

Volunteering provides vital support to local organisations and charities, and brings many benefits to you too. From improving your confidence to learning new skills, to meeting a new part of your community, volunteering is a great way to make the most of your spare time. Below are just a few of the many opportunities available from Volunteering Barnet. Volunteering Barnet is the accredited Volunteer Centre for Barnet and works with over 100 local organisations.

There's sure to be something to suit you. You can apply for these opportunities, and many more, by registering on the website: www.volunteeringbarnet.org.uk. Click "opportunity search" and enter the role title or organisation name.

If you have any questions about these opportunities, or how to apply, get in touch with Emily Coatham: enquiry@volunteeringbarnet.org.uk or 0300 365 9960.

We would love to hear from you!

Befriender

Ease Wellbeing

Meet up regularly with a befriender to help them get out and about in a safe environment, and integrate into their community. Volunteering on a one-to-one basis, the pair will take part in activities such as going to a café, shopping or for a walk.

Anti-smoking volunteer

Jami

Jami is a charity which provides support for Jewish people with a history of mental health conditions. Jami want to support centre users and staff to stop smoking and improve their health. Get involved in organising anti-smoking training sessions and an anti-smoking campaign.

volunteering

Barnet Community Directory

The Barnet Community Directory, developed by Barnet Council in partnership with Groundwork London, is a searchable database of voluntary groups, organisations, social clubs, charities and social enterprises based in or operating in Barnet.

Colindale Communities Trust (CCT), based on the Grahame Park Estate, was one of the first organisations to sign up.

Jan Brennan, Community Development Manager at CCT and a regular user of the Directory said: “It really helps us to support local residents. We can search for services and get precise information about how to contact them and what they offer. Having information in one easy to use place is so much more effective and convenient.”

Volunteers at Colindale Communities Trust provide information and advice to the local community and find the Directory a useful tool. They received training from Groundwork to support other organisations to make the most of the Directory and register their own services.

As a regular user of the Directory, Jan encourages others to register: “The more groups and organisations that register, the more effective the tool will be. I cannot emphasize how much time is saved by our organisation, which has a tight budget and relies on the work of our volunteers, by having this information in one convenient place.”



Colindale Community Trust

Since launching last year, the Directory has registered over 200 organisations, services and projects which are active across the borough, but there is still room for more. Benefits of registering include:

- increasing your audience by promoting your group, club, organisation and services
- connecting with local organisations and sharing resources
- accessing hundreds of contact details for community and voluntary organisations

- listing all projects that your organisation runs.

It is free to use and easy to update with information about your organisation whether large or small, funded or non-funded.

For more information on how to register or to request free training, please contact **Rupal.Shah@groundwork.org.uk**, call **020 7960 4283** or visit **vcs-database.barnet.gov.uk**



Library volunteer (Childs Hill Library)

Kisharon

Childs Hill Library are looking for volunteers to welcome visitors, assist them with finding resources they are looking for and help keep the library safe and tidy. Volunteers will receive training and regular support plus the opportunity to assist with other activities such as the Summer Reading Challenge and community events.

Advocacy in Barnet

Volunteer Advocate for Older People

Are you reliable, with great listening skills and passionate about empowering the older generation in Barnet? Advocacy in Barnet are looking to train new volunteer advocates for people aged 50+. A fantastic way to meet new people, whilst making a difference in your community.

Garden Allotmenteer

Whetstone Allotments Community Plot

Do you love the outdoors? Help others access the joys of gardening on Whetstone Allotments' accessible, community plot. Tasks include preparing the plot; sowing seeds under cover, in raised beds and in the ground. Everyone is welcome especially those who don't have access to outdoor space.

Adviser

Citizens Advice Barnet

Help provide effective and efficient advice to members of the public. Develop your administration and customer relations skills by interviewing clients, setting priorities with the client and completing clear and accurate case records. The volunteer will be committed to the aims and principles of the Citizens Advice service.

Driver

Langdon

New Chapters is a Langdon social enterprise selling used books. The project is fully operated by Langdon members and volunteers, helping adults with learning disabilities learn new employment skills. Could you volunteer to collect books from north London locations? Langdon members will accompany the driver.

whats on



Leisure Centre activities



Better's Swimming Crash Courses at Barnet Cophall, Finchley Lido and Church Farm Leisure Centres, 2 to 13 April

Aqua Splash Inflatable sessions at Finchley Lido, Tuesday 3, Thursday 5, Tuesday 10 and Thursday 12 April

Gymnastics Holiday Camp

at Hendon Leisure Centre, Monday 2 to Friday 13 April

Multi Sports Camp

at Burnt Oak Leisure Centre, Tuesday 3 to Friday 13 April (excluding Good Friday and Easter Sunday). Please book at reception or call 020 8201 0982

Be Inspired Open Day

Free activities for the whole family at Burnt Oak Leisure Centre, Friday 6 April

Swimathon 2018

Barnet Cophall Leisure Centre, April 28 and 29, 10am – 1pm
Finchley Lido Leisure Centre, April 28 and 29, 4.30pm – 7pm

Visit www.better.org.uk for details of these and more leisure activities in Barnet.

Wingate & Finchley FC disabled fans forum



Where: Wingate & Finchley FC, Summers Lane, Finchley, N12 0PD

When: Every Wednesday

Time: 11am – 12 noon

Cost: Free

Initiative enabling football fans who have a disability to come together and enjoy the beautiful game in a safe place. Includes free access to Wingate & Finchley home fixtures. To find out more email info@swaggarlicious.com or call 07507 522113

RAF Museum events

Where: RAF Museum, Grahame Park Way, Hendon, NW9 5LL

Easter Animal Trail - Join the Easter Animal trail and find all the critters around the Museum! Find them all and receive a chocolatey Easter prize.

When: Friday 31 March to Saturday 7 April.

Cost: £3

RAF Foundation Day - Celebrate the Royal Air Force's 100th Birthday in this free one day festival.

When: Sunday 1st April.

Cost: free

Dambusters 75 - A series of events looking at the legend and legacy of the Dam Busters, specially created for the 75th anniversary of their flight.

When: Monday 14 to Sunday 20 May.

Cost: free/£ (see website for details of individual events)

For further information about these events please visit

www.rafmuseum.org.uk/whatson

Colindale Library Lego Club

Where: Colindale Library, 7 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, London, NW9 4BR

When: Every Saturday during term time

Time: 2.30 to 3.30pm

Cost: Free

Creatively explore science, technology, engineering and mathematics subjects through our Lego building club for 5 to 12 year olds. Contact Colindale library on 020 8359 3930 for more information.

Tell us what's on in Barnet

We want to hear about local events, community services or activities.

To feature your event in Barnet First, email your event details to whatsonbarnet@barnet.gov.uk

Submission does not guarantee inclusion in Barnet First but will be taken into consideration for future editions of the magazine.

Big Fun Walk 2018



Where: East Finchley to Westminster

When: Sunday 6 May

Time: Check in at East Finchley between 9 and 10.15am

Cost: Registration costs £12.50 for adults and £7.50 for under 16s. Under 5s are free

North London Hospice's biggest event, a beautiful charity walk through London's most famous parks. Last year over 1,250 people took part and raised over £150,000. Register online or find out more at www.bigfunwalk.co.uk or by calling 020 8446 2288

Hidden gems

whats on

Highlands Gardens in New Barnet

Now spring is here it's a great time to visit a real hidden gem, Highlands Gardens, a public garden in New Barnet. It was formerly the garden of Highlands House, built in 1897 for banker Bevan Braithwaite.

Highlands House itself is now long gone, but the gardens, open to the public since 1931, retain many features from the original layout, including terraced lawns, water-gardens, 19th Century rock-works, rustic bridges, a wild flower meadow and an octagonal wooden summer house.

Highlands Gardens features a wide range of specimen trees and exotics including yucca,

monkey puzzle, and a recently planted Kentucky coffeetree, while wildlife visiting the garden include kingfishers, herons, goldfinches and damselflies.

The gardens are open from dawn to dusk every day, and the main entrance is at the junction of Leicester Road and Abbots Road.



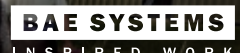
Barnet is full of hidden gems so if you have a favourite spot that needs to be celebrated, let us know at barnet.first@barnet.gov.uk and perhaps we can include it in a future edition.

Coming summer 2018: A greater FREE day out for all

- Free admission, open daily
- Three new permanent exhibitions
- New restaurant, café and shop
- Beautifully new landscaped site
- Calendar of free family events
- New outdoor play area for children

Call **020 8205 2266**
Email london@rafmuseum.org
www.rafmuseum.org.uk/london

ROYAL AIR FORCE **museum**
LONDON



young people

Keeping safe online

As part of our three-year partnership with UNICEF UK, we're delivering the Child Friendly Cities and Communities Programme to ensure children and young people in the borough grow up healthy, happy, safe and resilient.

One of the key focuses of the programme involves working closely with children and young people across the borough to raise awareness and highlight ways to stay safe and secure. As part of this work, we have been promoting how to stay safe online.

Here are just a few tips to help keep your child safe online:

Engage in open discussion

Talk to your child about their experiences on the internet. If they're worried they will be blamed or reprimanded for their online mistakes, they are more likely to

hide a problem or try and fix it themselves, potentially making it a lot worse.

Highlight risks

Children start using the internet from a very young age, so it's important you discuss potential risks early and regularly.

Although topics such as grooming and sexual content can be uncomfortable to approach, having these talks will ensure your children are equipped with the tools to protect themselves online.

Agree and establish appropriate behaviour

The behavioural boundaries you set for your child must include their use of the internet.

For example; setting social media profiles to private, ensuring personal details are not given out and never meeting with anyone in person from online without an accompanying adult.

Set parental controls

For primary school children, parental controls can be an effective way of controlling the sites and content they are able to access.

For more information visit:

<https://thebarnetscp.org.uk/bscp>

or email: haveyoursay@barnet.gov.uk



Early Help Services

We are changing the way we organise and deliver Early Help Services for families

Consultation is open from
1 February – 27 March 2018

Opportunity
to have
your say

Family Support Services • Children's Centres & Services • Youth Centres & Services



For more information about our consultation proposals, to fill in our online questionnaire or to book onto one of our public Q & A meetings visit engage.barnet.gov.uk or call 020 8359 2724 for a paper copy

How do young people feel about living in Barnet?

Here are some results from our Young People’s Perception Survey and how they compare to last year’s results and our adults Residents’ Perception Survey.



89% of young people are happy living in Barnet, an increase of 4% on last year.

This is in line with our adults survey result (85%)

73% of young people think the council is doing a good job, an increase of 10%.

This is in line with our adults survey result (70%)



85% of young people think Barnet is a Family Friendly place to live, an increase of 4%.

Young people are more likely to say this than adults (75%)

86% of young people feel Barnet is a place where people from different ethnic backgrounds get on well together, an increase of 2%.

This is in line with our adults survey result (84%)



Top 3 concerns for young people

- 1 Crime (53%)
- 2 Lack of jobs (33%)
- 3 Not enough being done for young people (31%)



Top 3 concerns for adults

- 1 Crime (39%)
- 2 Lack of affordable housing (38%)
- 3 Conditions of roads and pavements (33%)

Young People’s Perception Survey results

Last year we launched the Children and Young People’s Plan at our youth convention which was held at the RAF Museum in Hendon.

The plan sets out our vision to be the most ‘Family Friendly’ borough by 2020. A key part of the plan is our commitment to listening to the views of children and young people. To achieve this goal, we have started doing an annual Young People’s Perception Survey to understand how 11 to 18-year-olds feel about living in the borough.

Some of the questions are the same as the ones we ask in our adults Residents’ Perception Survey which helps us understand how young people feel about living in Barnet compared to adults. We asked young people a lot more including where they feel most safe and what their top safety concerns are.

We would like to thank all the young people who took part in the survey – if you get asked to take part in this annual survey in the future, please take the opportunity to give us your views.

To see the full results visit: engage.barnet.gov.uk

Other ways young people can get involved in shaping their area and the services that matter to them

Involving young people in shaping the decisions that will affect your local areas and services is important to the council. We are happy to see that 57% of young people felt involved in decision making which is an increase of 11% from last autumn’s survey. Barnet has joined forces with UNICEF UK to deliver the Child Friendly Cities and Communities Programme. This is a global programme that aims to advance children’s rights and well-being at the local level.

Here are some of the other ways young people can have their say:

- Barnet Youth Board
- UK Youth Parliament
- Children’s Rights forum
- Barnet Youth Assembly

If you would like to find out more about these groups and how to join, please email: haveyoursay@barnet.gov.uk or call 020 8359 2202.

LANDLORDS!

Let your property the easy way, and get paid for it!

This is a free service and is available to all landlords and agents.

If we match tenants to your property, you may receive a payment of £3,000 or more subject to terms and conditions.



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Twitter




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Email: info@let2barnet.co.uk

Call: 020 8359 4761

contact your councillors

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Annual Council Meeting

Tuesday 22 May, 7pm
Hendon Town Hall, The Burroughs, NW4 4BG

Full Council meetings

Tuesday 31 July, 7pm
Hendon Town Hall, The Burroughs, NW4 4BG

Residents Forums

Chipping Barnet Residents Forum
Wednesday 18 July, 7pm, Chipping Barnet
Library, 3 Stapylton Road, EN5 4QT

Finchley and Golders Green Residents Forum
Wednesday 18 July, 7pm, Greek Cypriot Centre,
Britannia Road, Whetstone, North Finchley,
N12 9RU

Hendon Residents Forum
Wednesday 18 July, 7pm, Hendon Town Hall,
The Burroughs, NW4 4BG

For more information, please visit:
www.barnet.moderngov.co.uk/mglistcommittees

For details of surgeries

email: first.contact@barnet.gov.uk

or write to us: Members' Room, Hendon Town Hall,
The Burroughs, Hendon NW4 4BG

For full details check website

Are you registered to vote on **3 May 2018**?

If you have recently moved home, you must re-register.

Registering to vote is quick and easy. If you aren't already registered and are eligible to vote, visit:
www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

REGISTER



VOTE



**To vote in the Local Elections, you must
register before 17 April 2018.**