

50%

recycling

by 2016

We want to get to  
40% to 50% by 2016

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## Contacting your council

### Corporate Customer Services

tel: 020 8359 2000

email: [first.contact@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:first.contact@barnet.gov.uk)

Contact us and we will identify the correct service or person you are looking for.

### Street-based services

tel: 020 8359 4600

Covering waste and recycling collection, holes in the road, abandoned vehicles and graffiti.

### Parking enquiries

tel: 020 8359 7446

[www.barnet.gov.uk/parking](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/parking)

### Planning and licensing advice

tel: 020 8359 3000

### Social Care Direct

tel: 020 8359 5000

### Out of hours emergencies

tel: 020 8359 2000

Barnet First is published by Barnet Council's Communications Team. Please email us on:

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### Privacy

Barnet has revised its Privacy Statement.

If you want to know more visit:

[www.barnet.gov.uk/privacy](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/privacy)

## Leader's column

**T**his edition of Barnet First is focussed on rubbish. The council collects a lot of it. The recycling we do in all the bins other than the black ones helps the planet and the borough.

I am not a natural recycler myself but I do sign up to this. The black bin contents are either burnt in Enfield at the incinerator just off the North Circular which can't be 100% pollution free or sent to landfill disposal to rot away. Either of these methods is much more expensive than recycling the blue bin contents or composting the brown food waste bin contents. So recycling is in itself a good thing to do (save the planet) It also has the benefit of saving the tax payer millions of pounds (save the borough).

Experts tell us that households could recycle 70% of their garbage. if we could get to 50% it would be a big help and step along the way.

If you do find that you more than fill your brown food waste container the council will give you another one free! And empty the two every week.

Yours



Richard Cornelius



**Barnet residents  
recycle 40% of their  
household waste**

**We want to  
get to 50%  
by 2016**

## news in brief

### Care and Support and you

**C**are and support in England is changing for the better with the introduction of the Care Act from April 2015.

The changes being introduced are:

- A new national criteria for adults with care and support needs
- New support for carers
- Deferred payments agreements for care costs

If you are currently receiving care and support from Barnet Council you will have already received a letter from us. You don't need to do anything as a result of the Care Act and we will give you notice, advice and support if there is anything you need to do differently.

Visit: [www.barnet.gov.uk/careact](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/careact)



### Free childcare for 2-year-olds

**Y**our 2-year-old could qualify for up to 15 hours a week of Free Early Education that could be used at a childminder, nursery, pre-school, children centre or nursery school.

Research has shown that early education can improve the development and social skills of young children.

To find out whether your child is eligible or for more information on the scheme, visit: [www.barnet.gov.uk/free-childcare](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/free-childcare)



### Entrepreneurial Barnet

**T**he council is set to publish its Entrepreneurial Barnet policy which sets out the authority's ambition to become the best place in London to be a small business.

The document went out to public consultation late last year. The policy aims to encourage growth in the borough so that people from all backgrounds can share in the opportunities a stronger economy brings.

### Barnet Council's revised website introduces a new personalised My Account Service

**M**y Account makes it easier for residents to report a problem and keep track of the council's response.

The account also lets people make a payment, keep a check on council tax as well as housing benefit accounts. Residents can also order a library book and be informed when it arrives.

The new site lets residents sign up to email alerts for new planning or licensing applications near their homes.





## £20 million proposals to rebuild Copthall and Church Farm leisure centres

**C**opthall and Church Farm Leisure Centres look set to be replaced with brand new state of the art leisure centres following plans published as parts of the council's review of sport and leisure facilities in the borough.

Finchley and Hendon Leisure centres could also be rebuilt at their existing sites in the next decade.

Councillor Helena Hart, Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board, said: "This is a fantastic result for Barnet residents and, in these extremely difficult financial times, a very creative solution for providing modern sports and physical exercise facilities for our residents. An investment in new buildings will not only generate more income and reduce the annual burden to the taxpayer, it will actually help to provide just the sort of health improving facilities we need so much"

[www.barnet.gov.uk/news](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/news)

## School expansion plans approved

**P**lans for an expansion of Oak Lodge School have been given the go ahead by Barnet Council's Planning Committee.

The committee, which met on 28 January, approved plans for the construction of a new teaching block at the school in East Finchley.

The school specialises in teaching students aged between 11 and 19 with moderate or severe learning difficulties.

It has been highly praised in recent years with the school being rated as outstanding in its last Ofsted inspection.

The new block at the secondary school in East Finchley will provide 35 additional places bringing the total number of places to 200.

[www.barnet.gov.uk/news](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/news)



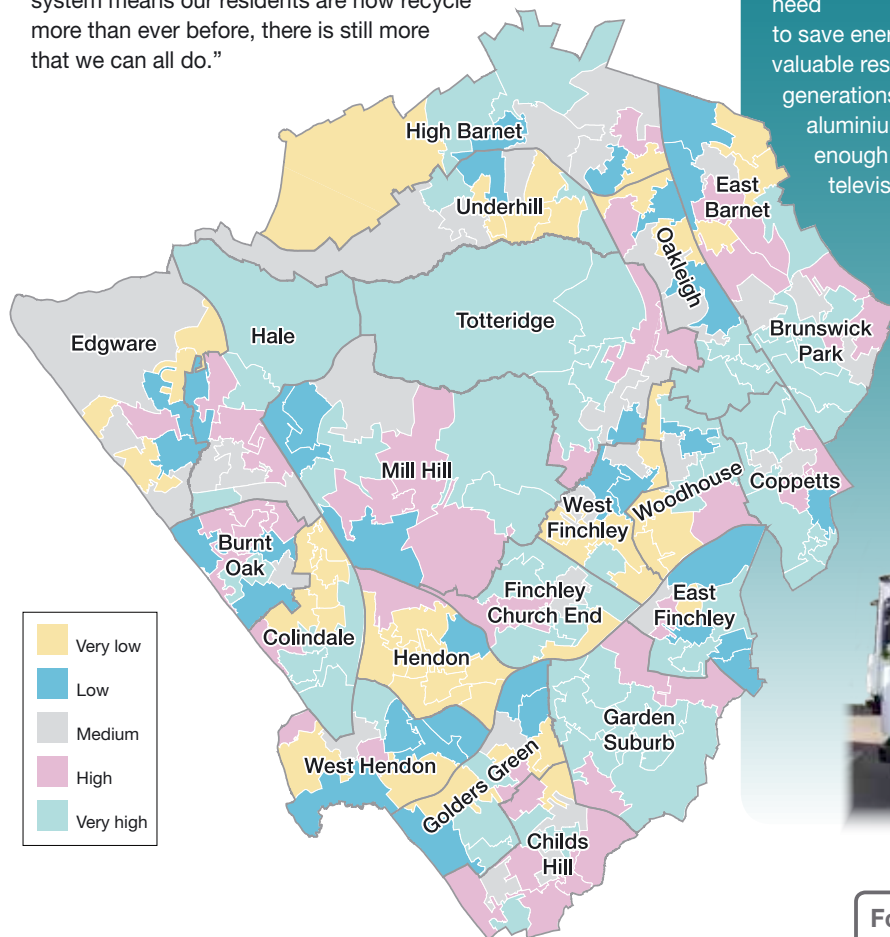
# 50 per cent recycling by 2016, why?

**E**ach year residents in Barnet throw away around 36,000 tonnes of household waste that could be recycled. This costs the taxpayer around £3.1million each year.

It costs roughly twice as much to dispose of the residual waste from the black bin, compared to the blue and brown recycling bins.

Councillor Dean Cohen, Chairman of Barnet Council's Environment Committee said: "Over the past two years the council has invested a great deal in making it easier to recycle. Every house has been provided with the blue and brown recycling bins. I know from what residents say to me that they find the improved service much easier to use."

The easier to use recycling system has been well received by residents and recycling rates have risen from 33 per cent of all household waste prior to the introduction of the new system, to 40 per cent, and our aim is to achieve 50 per cent by 2016. However, Councillor Cohen adds; "Although the new system means our residents are now recycle more than ever before, there is still more that we can all do."



recycling by ward excluding flats

**“Increasing recycling is one way in which every resident can play a part in saving the taxpayer money. That means a greater proportion of council spending can go to supporting those residents who need it most.**

**I hope every Barnet resident will play their part in getting to 50 per cent recycling by 2016.”**

Councillor Cohen added: "There are obvious environmental arguments for recycling. We need to save energy and conserve valuable resources for future generations. Just recycling one aluminium can will save enough energy to power a television for three hours."



For more information, visit: [www.barnet.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/recycling)



# What goes in your bin

**L**ast November, Barnet Council carried out a study to see how well recycling services are being used across the borough and how the services could run in the future to encourage better recycling.

Household residual waste collected weekly from houses and flats was analysed to see what materials were being put into the black bin. The results from the analysis of the residual waste bin from houses revealed is shown in the page opposite.

The results from flats show that 15% of the residual waste bin could be recycled using the flats recycling service. A similar survey will be repeated again this Spring to see if there is any change.



## Waste and recycling data

The council is using technology to analyse trends and patterns in the borough to accurately inform how we move forward with recycling. This information is available online along with other useful waste and recycling service facts.

### Recycling Bring Bank sites

a location list of the recycling sites (bring banks) available in Barnet including details of items that can be recycled i.e. textiles & shoes, paper, glass, tins/cans, small electrical items

### Recycling by Ward

mapping which shows 'recycling by ward'

### Tonnage report - residual waste and recycling

tonnages of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting

### North London Household Waste Recycling Centres 2014

a location list of waste and recycling centres in North London.

To view this information, visit: [open.barnet.gov.uk](http://open.barnet.gov.uk)

**45.22%**

of black bin waste is non-recyclable

**35.46%**

of black bin waste is food waste and should be placed in the brown recycling bin

**15.23%**

of the contents of the black residual waste bin should be recycled and placed in the blue recycling bin. This includes glass jars, plastic food containers and food and drink cans

**4.09%**

of the black residual waste bin is garden waste and should be placed in the green recycling bin

**This means that over half (54.78%) of what is being thrown away in the black bin could be recycled.**





# 50%

## recycling

# by 2016

## Can I recycle more and waste less?

**Barnet is aiming to recycle 50 per cent of all household waste by 2016.**

**T**o help achieve this goal, the council is encouraging residents to do their bit – particularly by reducing the amount of food being thrown away and recycling more of what is thrown away.

More than 35 per cent of all general waste put out for collection each week in Barnet is food which could have been recycled. Although residents are doing their bit to recycle around 115 tonnes of food waste every week, not enough households are putting their brown kitchen caddies out for collection.

Here are a few hints and tips to help you recycle more and reduce food waste:

- Lining your kitchen caddy with a compostable or paper bin liner both displaying the seedling logo will help minimise mess
- Regularly emptying your kitchen caddy into your brown bin will also help reduce mess and odours
- Your washing up water can be used to rinse food packaging before it goes into your blue bin
- Planning your meals and making a list before you go shopping will help reduce food waste and save you money – around 60 per cent of the food we throw away in the UK could have been eaten
- If you're pushed for time, use your smart phone to take a quick picture of what you have in the fridge and in your cupboards to avoid buying what you already have
- Managing portion sizes will help minimise waste – measure out foods such as rice and pasta - around 75g of rice per

person should suffice and an inexpensive pasta measuring tool will help you get the amount of spaghetti spot on every time

- Freezing food you haven't eaten is a great way to reduce waste. You can freeze pretty much anything except soft cheese, and you can freeze right up until the use by date and it will keep for months. You may not realise that you can freeze milk, hard cheeses, cooked and raw vegetables and fruits including lemons which you can slice, freeze and use straight from the freezer in drinks
- Prolong the life of your bagged salad by storing the leaves in a sealed container with dry kitchen paper in your fridge. One leading UK food retailer estimates that 35 per cent of the bagged salad it sells goes to waste.

Visit: [www.lovefoodhatewaste.com](http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com) for lots more information on cutting food waste including meal planning



## ‘Recycling has become a way of life’

**S**orting out the weekly recycling may seem like one more chore to add to your ‘to do’ list. But by making small changes to their habits these two committed recyclers show it can be done.

We took recycling expert Graeme Lawes along to see if there are ways they can improve their recycling rates further.

Sara Jackson, lives with her husband Dan and children Jacob, 10 and Louis, 8, in a house in Finchley. Peering into Sara’s black bin, less than a quarter full the day before her collection, it’s clear she produces very little leftover waste at the end of each week.

“It’s really important to me that we reduce the amount we send to landfill,” she says. “I try to minimise the amount of waste I throw out in the black bin and recycle as much as possible.

“If I go on a train and have a plastic bottle I’d rather bring it home with me and recycle it than throw it in the bin.”

Sara has some questions for Graeme about what she can recycle; Tetrapaks (yes), bottle tops (yes if put separately in the blue bin) and whether she needs to use compostable caddy liners for her kitchen caddy (optional - but compostable or paper liners used must have the seedling logo although food can be placed loose into your brown bin).

Over the last few years Sara says she’s changed some of her behaviour patterns to reduce the amount of waste she creates;

“I make a conscious decision not to buy stuff if it is wrapped in loads of plastic. I have a vegetable delivery once a week and avoid buying any food in polystyrene because I can’t recycle it.

“I freeze leftovers and make sure I shop with a list.” Her family are good at following her lead. “The children check with me first about what goes in which bin if they’re not sure. Sometimes my husband will get confused and throw a bottle in by mistake, but on the whole everyone is pretty good.”

Graeme says; “Sara is a great example of someone who has changed her lifestyle habits to not only increase the amount she recycles but to reduce the overall waste she creates. This benefits her family budget too because she is buying what she needs and throwing away very little.”



**“I freeze leftovers and always shop with a list”**



**“We swapped our big supermarket runs for smaller, regular shops”**



**L**uke Ward lives in a block of flats in Woodside Park with his girlfriend Lorena.

He is a keen recycler however the communal bins in his block have lots of examples of ‘contamination’ where the wrong types of materials are being placed inside. Some examples are plastic bags thrown into the blue bin and cardboard into the black bin.

“I’ve grown up with the generation where recycling is the norm,” says Luke. “I do my best to recycle as much as possible and reduce waste where I can.”

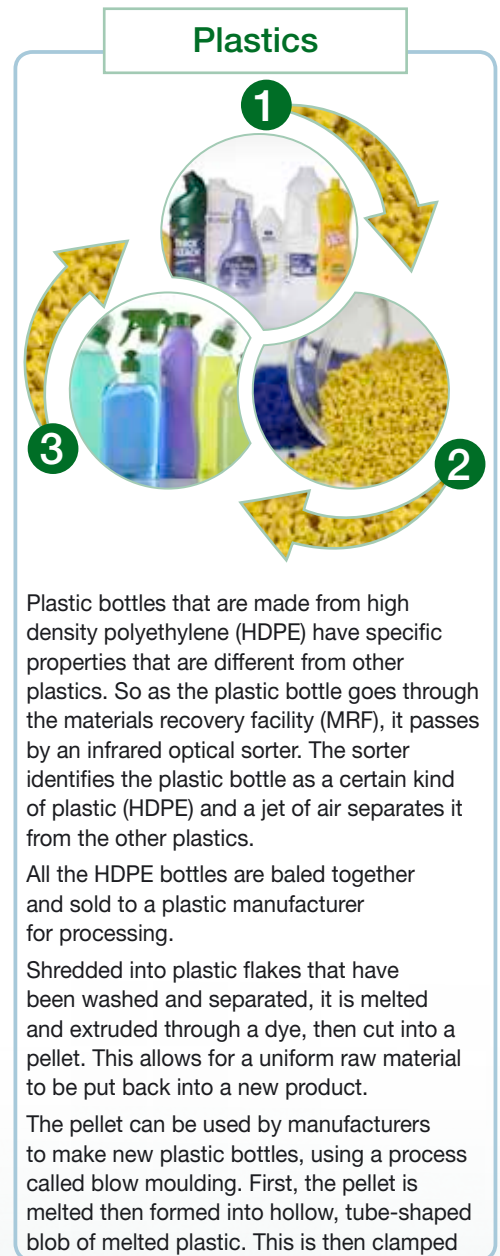
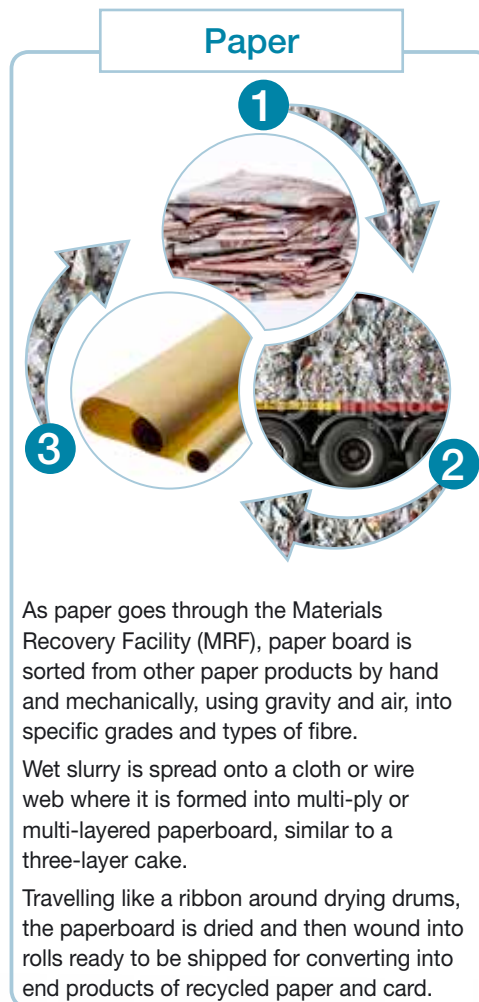
Living in a flat can sometimes present its challenges. “It can sometimes be an effort to store our recycling in a convenient and hygienic way,” says Luke. “We take out our bins every four to five days so we make sure we wash out tin cans and keep pizza boxes clean

“We can’t recycle food waste yet so we do our bit to minimise the amount of food we throw away. My girlfriend is from Italy and we have swapped our supermarket shops for smaller, more regular food shops. We buy everything loose and come away with a shopping bag loaded up with fruit and veg for a fiver which is not only cheaper than buying everything pre-packaged at the supermarket, but produces less waste. We top this up with monthly online shops for general groceries.”

Graeme says: “Luke is doing a lot to reduce his waste and recycle where he can. There are a few things he can do to boost what he recycles further, such as separating cardboard from plastic in food boxes such as quiche packets, and putting clean foil in the blue bin. These changes may seem small but taken on a larger scale they soon add up.”



# Where does your recycling go



## Did you know...

An aluminium can that is thrown away will still be a can 500 years from now

**All recycling is collected in one of the council’s vehicles and taken to the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) at Edmonton, where the different materials are separated into material types both through mechanical processes and by hand.**

Dry ‘comingled’ recycling (blue bin) is collected in the back of the vehicle and transferred to the MRF. Each area of the processing plant helps to separate one type of recyclable material from another.

A typical MRF will separate recyclable materials from a mixture of paper, card, glass and plastic cans. Once separated into individual materials it is rolled into a bail and taken to manufacturers to be made in to new items.



As the recycled material travels along the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) conveyor belt, a high-powered magnet attracts steel cans to a revolving belt to sort them from other materials. The steel cans are then baled before shipment to a steel mill or foundry.

The melted metal is then cast into slabs and rolled into flat stock or steel sheets.

As an example, the flat stock is cut into sections, rolled and welded into tubes for bicycle frames. The recycled steel tubing is assembled into a bike frame.



Glass being the heaviest material is last to be treated at the Material Recovery Facility (MRF). A rotating metal discs on a conveyor belt break the glass, which then falls through holes while other material remains on the belt. The separated glass is then placed on a vibrating screen and hit with gusts of air to remove dirt, paper, and debris from the broken glass material. Once the recycled glass is crushed, it is called "cullet."

This mixed glass is then sorted using an "optical sorter" by colour. Glass is sent to various reprocessing plants where it is re-melted and used for bottles, jars, fibre optic and insulation.



### Green garden waste (green bin)

collected separately, also goes to London Waste Ltd's EcoPark site where it is either used to top up in-vessel composting on site or sent to a sub-contractor to be composted in outdoor windrows into agricultural grade compost.



### Residual waste (black bin)

goes either to landfill or some of it is burnt in an Energy from Waste plant. The landfilled waste goes from our waste transfer site at Hendon to a landfill site in Buckinghamshire. The other proportion which is burnt goes to the Energy from Waste plant at the London Waste Ltd EcoPark in Edmonton.

### Did you know...

On average people in the UK throw away seven times their own body weight in waste every year!

### Food waste (brown bin)

is collected in a specially design "pod" behind the cab of the collection vehicle and, when full, is transferred to London Waste Ltd's EcoPark site in Edmonton. The materials are then transferred to the state of the art Biogas plant in Dagenham, where the food

waste is processed in an anaerobic digestion plant. The Dagenham plant is the first anaerobic digester in London and generates approximately 1.4MW of electricity, sufficient to power approximately 2,000 homes and produces 14,000 tonnes p.a. of compost for agricultural use.

# Consultation and Engagement

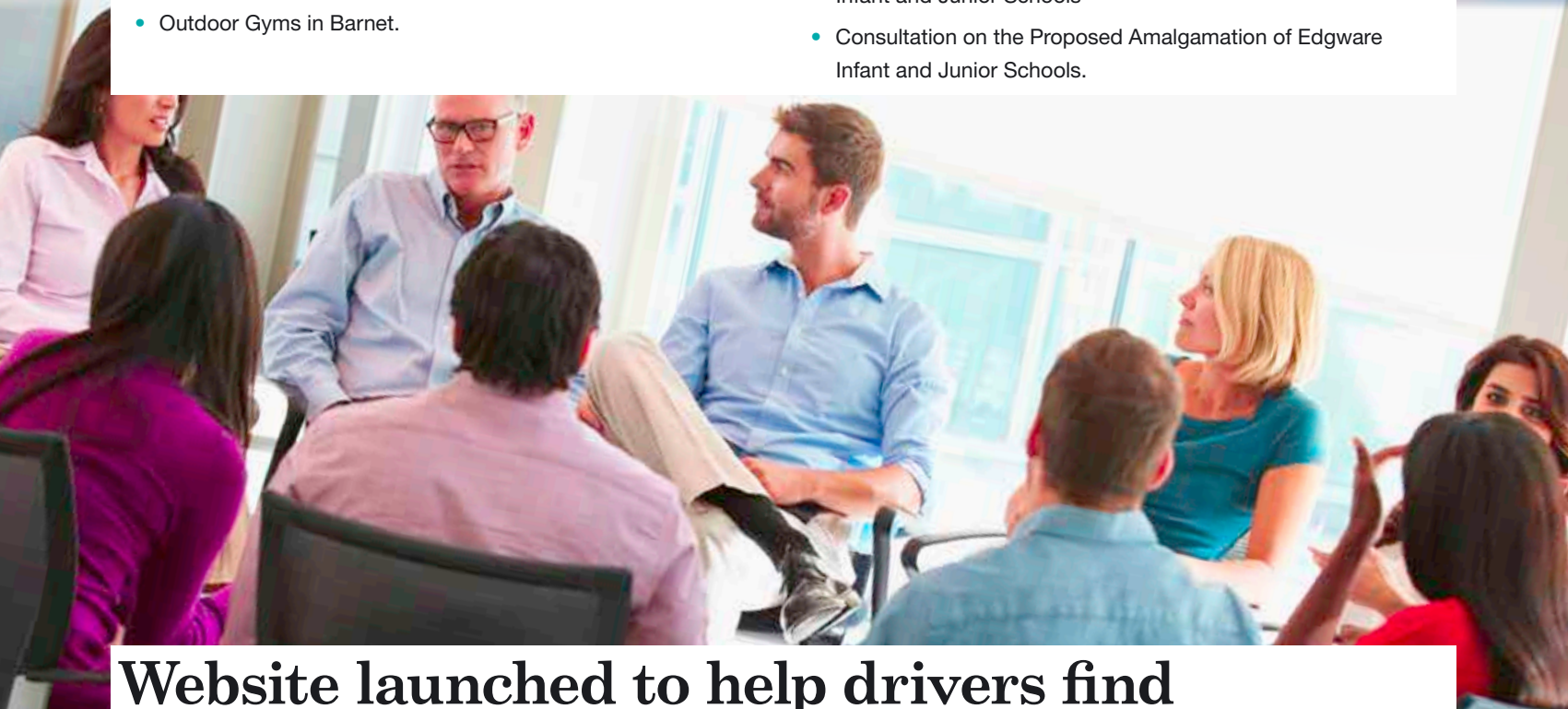
**T**he council is committed to involving local residents in shaping their area and the services they receive. You can find out how to take part in current consultations at: [engage.barnet.gov.uk](http://engage.barnet.gov.uk)

Current consultations include:

- Barnet Housing Strategy 2015 to 2025
- Proposal to federate the governing bodies of Brookhill, Hampden Way and St Margaret's nursery schools
- Outdoor Gyms in Barnet.

We have recently published how we are acting on residents' feedback from the following consultations:

- The future delivery of Barnet's Education and Skills Service Autumn 2014
- Consultation on the proposal to restructure the Pavilion Study Centre and Discovery Bay Hospital, Home and Outreach Teaching Service
- Consultation on the Proposed Amalgamation of Underhill Infant and Junior Schools
- Consultation on the Proposed Amalgamation of Edgware Infant and Junior Schools.



## Website launched to help drivers find parking spaces

**B**arnet residents can now access details of all parking restrictions in the borough on a new website called Traffweb.

The website allows motorists to find out where they can park for free around the borough, view yellow line restrictions for each street, comment on parking consultations and view proposed parking schemes.

Traffweb, which was created by Re, the joint venture between Barnet Council and Capita, with technology from Buchanan Computing, publicises all of the council's traffic management orders (TMOs), and is mobile friendly.

This means that information on the most up-to-date parking charges, parking spaces and hours of operation on all public highways, including town centres, is just a click away.

To access Traffweb, go to [www.barnettraffweb.co.uk](http://www.barnettraffweb.co.uk)

# contact your councillors



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