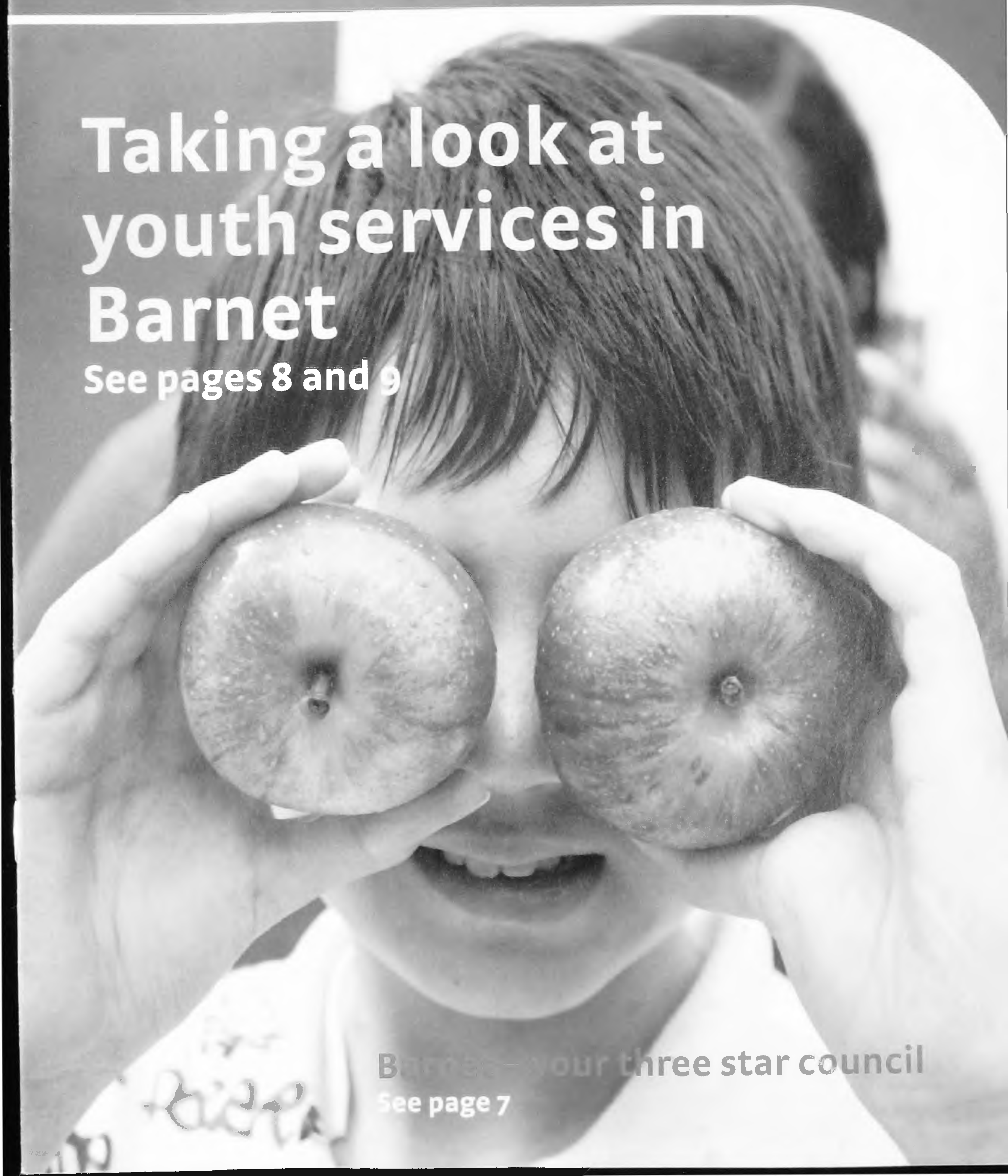


**BARNET**  
LONDON BOROUGH

# barnetfirst

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Issue 24 January/February 2007



## Taking a look at youth services in Barnet

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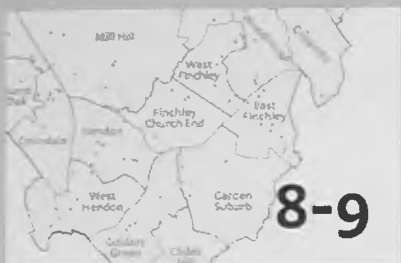
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## Production details

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# Message from the Leader

The role of the council is changing.

In the past, our remit was purely to deliver services – to ensure that waste was collected, streets were cleaned, schools were of a high standard and social care was provided to the most vulnerable residents.

The work of the council is a lot broader now and we're expected to help shape other services in the borough, such as healthcare, policing and transport, even though we are not directly responsible for delivering them.

The council has to take more of a community leadership role. That's why we have been working very closely with our NHS partners recently to try to influence their plans for healthcare in the borough.

The NHS is about to hold a major public consultation on its proposals for the future of health services in Barnet. I will be making the council's views known in this crucial process and I urge every Barnet resident to do the same (see page three).

But looking beyond this consultation, we must also consider how we are all going to contribute to the long term sustainability of the health service. Increasing pressure is being placed on local authorities to shore up the funding gap within the NHS. Healthcare that has traditionally been provided in a hospital setting is now shifting into the community. This places an additional strain on local authorities' budgets, without a corresponding increase in resources.

In its evolving role as community leader, the council wants to step up to the plate and help shape the services that affect residents' daily lives but to do this we are all going to have to be part of the solution.

Councillor Mike Freer  
Leader of the Council



# Health services – have your say

A major public consultation on the future of health services in the borough will soon be underway and Barnet Council's Leader is urging all residents to voice their views.

The NHS has devised a list of possible options for the future of healthcare in Barnet, Enfield and Haringey and residents in all three boroughs are being asked what they think before a final decision is made.

Barnet Council Leader Mike Freer has already written to every home in the borough expressing his grave concerns about the proposals. The council believes that none would result in an improvement in health services in Barnet – in fact some would even be detrimental.

**“It is vital that we all make our views known to the NHS before it is too late.”**

He said: “The future of healthcare in Barnet hangs in the balance and we all have a responsibility to help protect it. The outcome of the public consultation will change the shape of health services in the borough for generations to come. Therefore it is vital that we all make our views known to the NHS during this exercise before it is too late.”

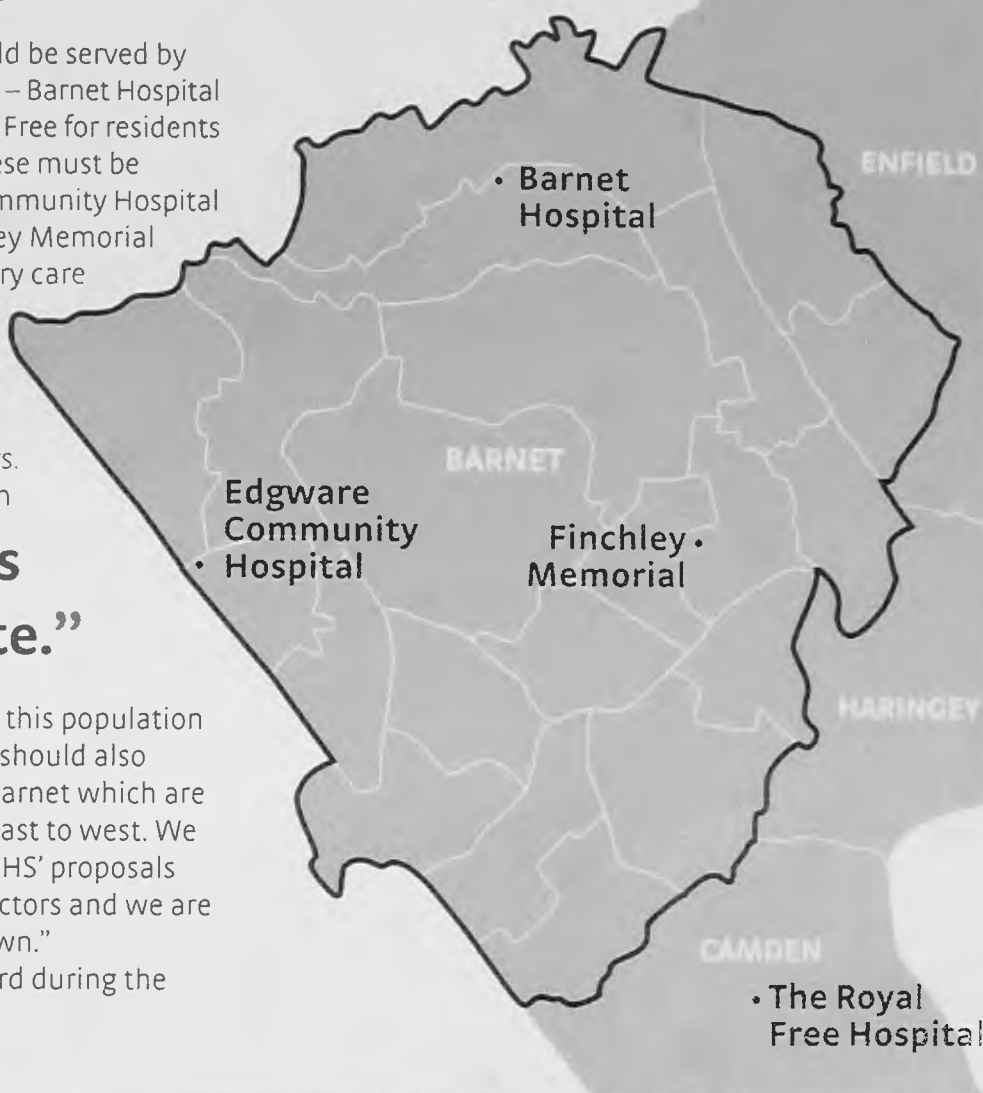
All parties represented on the council

believe the borough should be served by two major acute hospitals – Barnet Hospital in the north and the Royal Free for residents in the south and west. These must be supported by Edgware Community Hospital and a redeveloped Finchley Memorial Hospital, as well as primary care services within Barnet.

The Leader added: “Barnet’s population is expected to increase by 40,000 in the next 10 years. Increased health provision

must be in place ahead of this population growth. Hospital services should also reflect transport links in Barnet which are from north to south, not east to west. We want to ensure that the NHS’ proposals reflect these important factors and we are making our concerns known.”

To make your voice heard during the public consultation visit [www.behfuture.nhs.uk](http://www.behfuture.nhs.uk)



## Youth centre opens

Barnet Mayor Councillor Eva Greenspan has opened a revamped youth centre at Church Farm.

The modern facility offers a range of leisure facilities including a gym, computer room and entertainment for the young people of East Barnet and Brunswick Park.

The centre is run by Barnet Police and Hornsey YMCA.

Brunswick Park councillor, Lynne Hillan, who

was instrumental in initiating the project, said: “Youth facilities must be relevant to the young people that use them. This is why we facilitated the partnership with the YMCA who are well versed in appealing to the youth.

“We were determined to open Church Farm to give our young people a place of their own. I wish the centre every success in the future.”

Other activities available include healthy cooking lessons and a homework club.

**Recycling in Barnet is so simple you can do it in your sleep!**



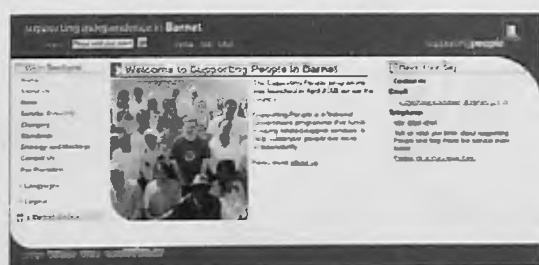
**That’s the message from the winner of Fill It, Snap It, Win It.**

Judges picked out 24-year-old Craig Johnson’s effort from a field of high-quality entries.

Now Craig, from East Finchley, can look forward to a Black Box filled with £250 worth of environmentally friendly goodies.

He has also been reminded that while Barnet Council does provide an assisted collection for the elderly and infirm, we cannot guarantee him a bedside collection!

## Trouble coping – Supporting People website could help you



Barnet’s Supporting People services offer practical support to help you:

- set up and manage your home
- handle difficult forms and letters
- keep your home safe
- deal with debts or arrears
- develop skills to cope in the future

- access training or employment
- manage your money
- organise adaptations to your home.

The new website [www.supportingpeople.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.supportingpeople.barnet.gov.uk) provides comprehensive details about the Supporting People programme, and includes a service directory to help you find the right support.

You can also find out more by contacting one of these numbers:

Aged over 60 – 020 8347 2223

Barnet Council tenant – 0800 389 5225

All other enquiries – 020 8343 6483

Email: [supportingpeopleteam@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:supportingpeopleteam@barnet.gov.uk)

## feature

The Bald Faced Stag public house on Finchley Common. At the time this was the only building which was close to the "six mile to London" stone marker (seen in the bottom left corner of the building). The Bald Faced Stag which stands there today replaced this building in 1880.



Picture courtesy of Guildhall Library, City of London

"Lord" George Sanger: Sanger was never actually a real lord. He took the title in response to Buffalo Bill (William Cody), who had adopted the prefix "Honorable". At a show in Barnet, Sanger stole not only Cody's wild west act, but also the name "Buffalo Bill". Bill took Sanger to court. Having spent the day in court Sanger returned to Barnet and declared to that night's audience "Hang it. If Cody is an Honorable then I'm a Lord!" The name stuck and was even accepted by Queen Victoria when Sanger's circus next performed at Windsor Castle!

Spotlight on your ward

# East Finchley

East Finchley was originally known as East End Finchley, and from the middle of the 14th century until the 1820s described the small hamlet on East End Road near to the Five Bells pub.



By the end of the 17th century another settlement had grown up to the east of East End.

The area, on the edge of Finchley Common, centred on a pig market held on Wednesday and Thursday. Hog Market, sited in what is known today as Market Place, was the largest in Middlesex until the 1850s. Pigs were brought from as far away as Shropshire, fattened up on the spent grain from the gin trade and sold to London butchers. The bacon cured in Finchley was said to be "little inferior to that brought from Wiltshire and Yorkshire."

By the 1820s East End Finchley was increasingly being called plain East Finchley.

In 1867 a railway station was opened on the Edgware, Highgate and London Railway. The new station attracted builders to the area and from 1880 new streets and shops, such as the county roads, were laid out to the east of the High Road. The new suburban householders of Finchley objected to being associated with the "east end" of London and persuaded the railway company to rename the station East Finchley. Until 1939 you could catch steam trains from East Finchley to Edgware or Finsbury Park. The underground tunnels were only dug in the late 1930s. The station was replaced with a new Art Deco station which opened in 1940. One of the ward's most famous landmarks - a statue of an archer made by Eric Aumonier - was erected on the bridge.

The Phoenix Cinema opened in 1910 as the East Finchley Picturedrome, and is now believed to be one of the oldest continuously-running purpose-built cinemas in England. The cinema did face closure but was saved -

**Holy Trinity School: the first National Industrial School.**  
It was founded in 1847 and taught children not only literacy and numeracy but also cooking, gardening, needlework, and husbandry.



National Schools, East Finchley 10 C

### Did you know?...\*

- East Finchley has the second largest number of households of all Barnet wards – nearly 6,500 – but the fewest number of people per household
- The ward has the second highest proportion of people aged 20 to 64 – 65% of all its residents
- Almost 40% of East Finchley residents travel to work by Underground, the highest proportion in all of Barnet
- There are more people living in flats, maisonettes or apartments in East Finchley than any other ward – just over 55%.

\* Figures taken from the 2001 census.

## Council facilities in East Finchley

### Schools

- Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School, Eagan's Close
- Martin Infant School, Plane Tree Walk
- Martin Junior School, Plane Tree Walk
- Oak Lodge School, Heath View
- Bishop Douglass Roman Catholic High School, Hamilton Road

### Parks

- Cherry Tree Wood, Summerlee Avenue. One of the council's 16 premier parks. Facilities include a kiosk/cafe, play area, tennis courts and play area

### Allotment sites

- East Finchley, Plane Tree Walk
- Vale Farm, Tarling Road

### Leisure

- East Finchley Library, High Road
- Finchley Youth Theatre, High Road

### Recycling bring banks

- East Finchley Station, High Road
- High Road, near Martin School

hence the name Phoenix – by local people and is now run by a community trust.

Many interesting people have lived in East Finchley. Richard Cromwell, the son of Oliver Cromwell, lived under the name Richard Clarke at a house near East End Road during the 1690s. The Five Bells pub was used as a training retreat by boxers including Gem Mace (1860s), the father of modern boxing. The reformer Octavia Hill lived in Brownswell Cottage (after which a local street is named) opposite the Green Man Centre as a child in the 1850s. The remnants of her orchard remain adjacent to Tarling Road. Most famously Peter Sellers lived with his parents in a flat opposite the library.

"Lord" George Sanger, the circus owner, used Park Farm (now Hampstead Heights and Park Farm Close) as his winter quarters in the 1900s.

It was not strange to see elephants being exercised over the fields on what is now the Hampstead Garden Suburb! In 1911 Herbert Cooper, a servant, murdered Sanger with an axe. It became an international story – Sanger had invented the three-ringed circus and was well known. His grandson, who read about the murder in Johannesburg, later suggested that Cooper had been driven to the crime, in a fit of jealousy, and said he hoped that Cooper (who killed himself on the railway line between Finchley and Finsbury before capture) might be remembered with some sympathy.

\* The information for this feature was provided by Barnet's Local Studies and Archives Centre, 80 Daws Lane, Mill Hill, NW7 4SL. Tel: 020 8959 6657 or email: [library.archives@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:library.archives@barnet.gov.uk)

## Your councillors

As with all of Barnet's 21 wards, East Finchley has three elected members, or councillors, who have been elected by the ward's residents to represent them. Councillors stand for four years at a time.

**Cllr Andrew McNeil (Lab)** was elected to the council in May last year.  
T: 8444 3834  
E: [cllr.a.mcneil@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.a.mcneil@barnet.gov.uk)

**Cllr Alison Moore (Lab)** has been a councillor since 1998. She is currently Leader of the Labour Group on the council.  
T: 8343 0306  
E: [cllr.a.moore@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.a.moore@barnet.gov.uk)

**Cllr Colin Rogers (Lab)** has served the ward since 2002.  
T: 8444 7150  
E: [cllr.c.rogers@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.c.rogers@barnet.gov.uk)

## Meet your councillors

Barnet's councillors hold regular advice surgeries to give residents the chance to discuss any topics they wish to raise. You can meet your East Finchley councillors on Saturdays between 10 and 11.30am at East Finchley Neighbourhood Centre, Church Lane, East Finchley. No appointment is necessary.

# Regenerating your borough

Exciting developments in the borough are moving closer and closer.



Barnet is the fastest growing borough in outer London. Over the next 20 years we will see billions of pounds of investment to build 20,000 new homes, new and improved neighbourhoods and significantly-improved infrastructure to support this growth.

As well as one of the capital's biggest projects to revamp Cricklewood and Brent Cross, excellent progress is also being made on regeneration schemes at the borough's four largest housing estates – West Hendon, Grahame Park, Stonegrove and Spur Road, and Dollis Valley.

Barnet's Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Councillor Anthony Finn, said: "These are certainly exciting times for the borough and I'm very pleased with the excellent progress that has been made so far.

"We need to keep working closely with our partners and residents across the borough as our ambitious vision for the future becomes a reality on the ground."

In this edition of Barnet First we take a closer look at the developments:

## Brent Cross and Cricklewood

A new town centre will be created over the next 20 years, complete with 7,500 new homes, 27,000 jobs, a transformed Brent Cross Shopping Centre, thriving high street and new parks and open spaces.

Huge investment in transport infrastructure and community facilities are also in the pipeline, with plans incorporating new health facilities, a leisure centre, train station on the Midland Mainline, new bus station and improvements to road junctions, pedestrian links and cycle facilities.

**"We need to keep working closely with our partners and residents across the borough as our ambitious vision for the future becomes a reality on the ground."**

Brent Cross Shopping Centre will become a new town centre for the area, with a high-quality pedestrian-friendly environment and a wider range of shops alongside new leisure and dining facilities.

New homes will be available both for sale and as affordable housing, built to achieve high environmental and energy efficiency standards.

All family homes will include private open space – balconies, terraces or gardens – with children's play areas within a few minutes walk.

Public exhibitions have already been held to outline plans drawn up for the area before a planning application is submitted to the council next year.

Residents can also comment on the plans at [www.brentcrosscricklewood.com](http://www.brentcrosscricklewood.com)

## West Hendon

This £450m project will deliver approximately 2,000 new homes with 680 affordable properties.

A new health centre, community centre, a youth sailing base and shops around a new town square are also part of the plans.

The new neighbourhood will be designed to make the most of the views of the Welsh Harp reservoir and surrounding parkland.

Considerable infrastructure improvements are also planned to provide better traffic

movement along the busy Broadway and encourage pedestrian access to Hendon Station.

Detailed designs for the project are now being drawn up ahead of extensive consultation which will be undertaken involving the Residents' Regeneration Group, the wider community and all stakeholders.

## Dollis Valley

Plans for a new-look Dollis Valley were unveiled this autumn with residents invited to give their views on the proposed revamp.

The regeneration programme will deliver up to 1,200 new homes, through a combination of flats, houses and maisonettes for sale, affordable rent and shared ownership.

New retail and community facilities also form part of the scheme, as well as improved links to the surrounding Green Belt and residential areas.

## Grahame Park and Colindale

The project to regenerate Grahame Park is a key aspect of the wider redevelopment of Colindale which aims to create a vibrant new community with improved transport links and community health facilities.

Almost 100 households have moved to the adjacent Adastral estate as demolition work has started on the first phase of the project.

Ultimately the scheme will lead to 3,000 new homes forming part of a new heart for Colindale, better connected to its surroundings.

The council has also secured funding for engineering work that will replace existing rail bridges on Aerodrome Road, allowing vastly improved public transport connections to the area.

## Stonegrove and Spur Road

Work has started on the first affordable new homes at Stonegrove and Spur Road – marking a major milestone in the regeneration.

This first phase of 62 new flats and houses are expected to be ready for residents to move into in 2008.

As detailed proposals are developed for the remainder of the site, residents will be kept fully informed and given an input into the design of the new homes.

The regeneration, which will consist of up to 999 new homes, is scheduled to be completed by 2012.

# Thumbs up for council services

It's official, Barnet is a good council, performing and improving well. That's the verdict of local government watchdog, the Audit Commission, which awarded the council three stars after a rigorous inspection, called the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA).

A major part of the CPA was a corporate assessment which focussed on the council's ambition, how we prioritise work, how well we can deliver services, and what we have achieved.

The inspectors awarded Barnet three out of a maximum four for this work, and awarded top marks for its ambition – only three other councils in the country have achieved this score.

And Barnet is only one of two of these top performers to have improved from the last assessment in 2002.

Leader of the Council, Councillor Mike Freer, says: "Barnet is now among the best councils in the country – our residents can rest assured that we provide them with good services that meet their needs.

"Barnet Council now is unrecognisable to the organisation that was last inspected. Our modern back office systems are providing better services for our residents. We are smaller, more efficient, more innovative, and we have considerably improved our financial standing.

"But we are not complacent. We know there is still more work to be done."



## What the inspectors said:

- ✓ Barnet Council is performing well
- ✓ the council is a strong community leader
- ✓ its ambitions and priorities are based on the needs and views of local people – in fact the council has very good knowledge of local communities
- ✓ a key strength is regeneration and the council's clear ambition for the future of the borough
- ✓ the council is modernising itself to meet new challenges.

## Areas for improvement:

- ✓ councillors should do more to challenge the work of the council
- ✓ the council needs to roll out its plan to improve access for residents to its services.

For the full report see [www.barnet.gov.uk/best-value-and-comprehensive-performance-assessment](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/best-value-and-comprehensive-performance-assessment)

The council's services for children and young people in Barnet have also won praise – they have made "rapid" improvements in the last three years according to a separate Government inspection carried out.

The council's efforts to bring nine schools out of special measures and its child protection work, described as among some of the best yet seen in this country, were given particular praise in the Joint Area Review (JAR).

A team of seven Inspectors spent two weeks visiting the borough last May looking at the work of the council and its partners, including the voluntary sector, health and police.

The inspectors also met with young people on the Grahame Park estate to find out their perceptions about the services provided for them.

The JAR focused on five different areas – being healthy, staying safe, enjoying and achieving, making a positive contribution

and achieving economic well-being – and concluded that outcomes for children and young people in Barnet are "good". The authority was awarded a rating of three – no authority has yet been awarded the maximum four rating.

## "We are constantly striving to improve the services we provide for young people in our borough"

The good news was echoed in the inspection report for Barnet Youth Offending Service which specifically mentioned the high regard that our partner agencies have for the service.

Improvements in the youth service were also recognised in the enhanced youth inspection report, published concurrently,

which found examples of good quality youth work practice and pointed to good relationships between staff and young people. The council's Leader, Mike Freer, said: "This is excellent news for Barnet.

"We are constantly striving to improve the

services we provide for young people in our borough – not just during their early and school years but when they move on from school as well.

"This is due recognition of all the hard work that has been carried out in Barnet to improve services."

# Get yourself on the map

We know that there are hundreds of activities for young people in Barnet and we have been working very hard to produce a list of all these activities. Some of them can be found on this map opposite but we know this is not a complete list so we need your help to fill in the gaps and update our information. So this is your opportunity to put your youth activity on the map! For further information visit [www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk) or call 020 8359 7847.

## How to apply for funding for your youth activity:

### Edward Harvist Fund

More than £100,000 worth of one-off grants is available for youth projects in the borough thanks to the Edward Harvist Fund. Barnet Council is inviting bids for grants from not-for-profit voluntary and community groups across the borough. Any groups can apply but we are keen to support work in West Hendon, Edgware, East Barnet and East Finchley. We also want to ensure that we provide activities for all young people including those with learning or physical disabilities, teenage parents, young lesbians and gay men, young carers and asylum seekers and refugees. The closing date for applications is 1 February 2007. For more information call 020 8359 7847 or e-mail [gail.jackson@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:gail.jackson@barnet.gov.uk)

### Barnet Youth Bank

Barnet Youth Bank is a group of young representatives of youth clubs, forums, schools, colleges and specialist interest groups.

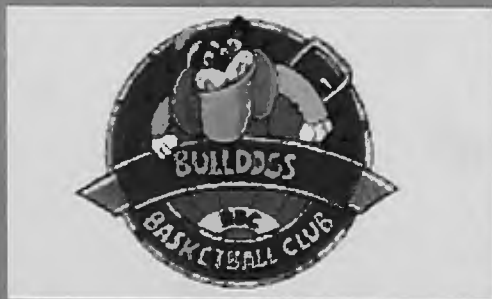
They have all been trained and accredited as grant makers by Youth Bank UK and are responsible for administering the Youth Opportunity Fund.

This fund is providing £199,556 for youth activities in Barnet. The Youth Bank meets once a month to assess local applications for funding.

So far they have awarded £124,679 to local organisations.

## Here are just three examples of youth services in Barnet:

### Barnet Bulldogs



Barnet Bulldogs Basketball Club is a voluntary sector youth provider which works in partnership with the council. The club promotes basketball as a positive activity, particularly for those who are vulnerable and at risk. They have various leagues and squads and have recently received funding from Barnet Youth Bank to develop a young leaders' academy that will be accredited through the Duke of Edinburgh and youth activity awards. For more information contact Ted Poleson on 020 8360 0430

### Barnet Impact



Barnet Impact is a young people's drug and alcohol project that offers treatment and specialist interventions. Its aim is to support the young person to stop or reduce their usage or to minimise harm. It provides screening and assessment, one-to-one key working, drug and alcohol awareness programmes, workshops, smoking cessation and alternatives to exclusion. Barnet Impact also has a family worker who can offer support and information. Drop-in times are Monday 3.30pm to 6.30pm at Barnet Impact, Mill Hill, Thursday 3pm to 5pm at the Old Barn, East Finchley and Friday 3pm to 5pm at 331 Young People's Centre in North Finchley.

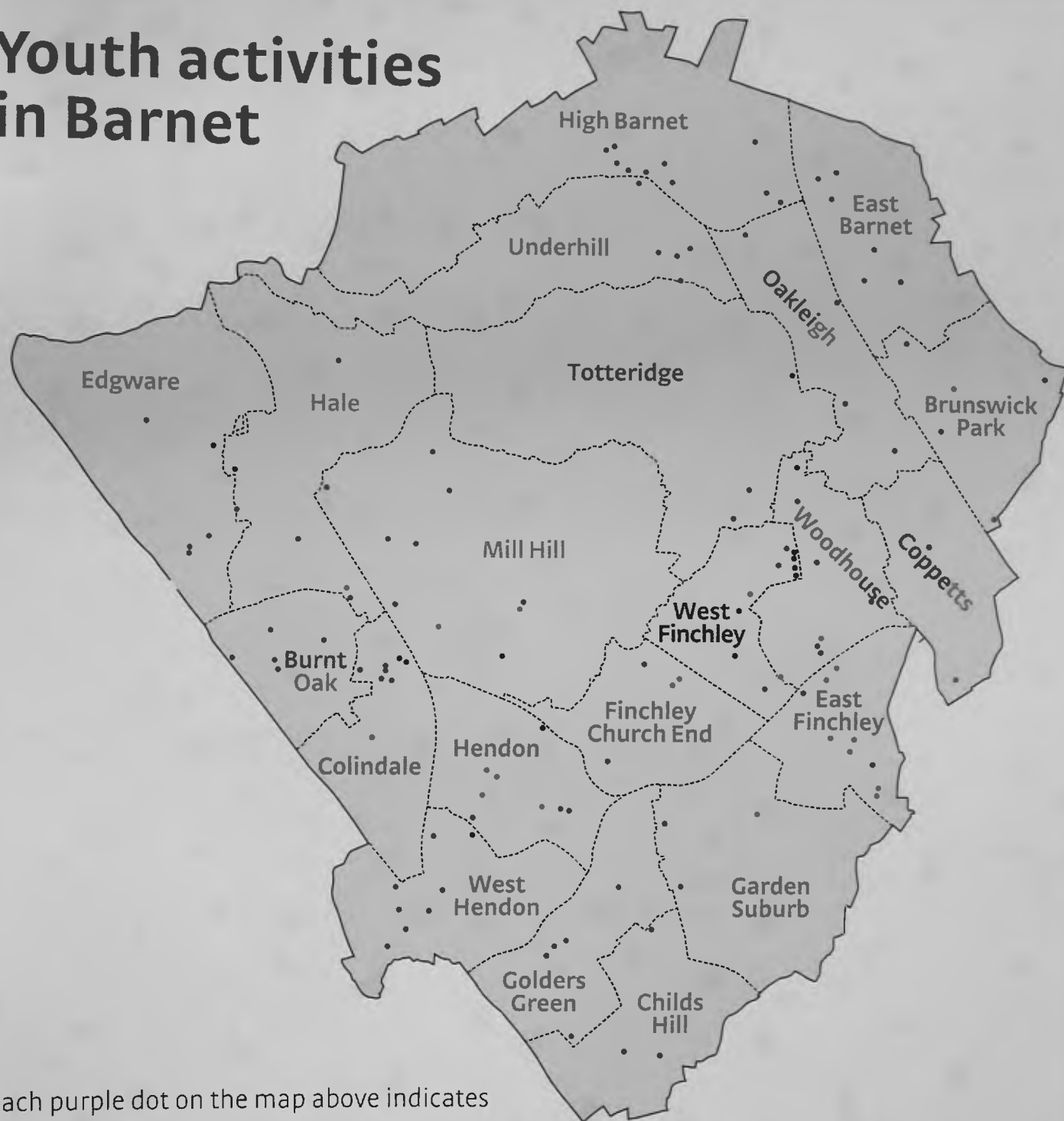
For further information, call 020 8359 3700 or e-mail [Impact@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:Impact@barnet.gov.uk)

### Finchley Youth Theatre



Finchley Youth Theatre's main programme runs on weekday evenings throughout the school year and there are also holiday workshops. As well as learning specific skills in dance, theatre, lighting and sound, members use drama games, improvisation, research and discussion. Groups often devise their own work for performance as well as working with texts. Anyone can become a member of Finchley Youth Theatre as they do not audition for places. For further information, call 020 8883 9957.

# Youth activities in Barnet



Each purple dot on the map above indicates a youth service in Barnet. However, we know that there are lots more services out there! So get in touch and let us know if you want to get your name on the map!

To find out what services are currently on the map visit: [www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk)

## New location for Barnet's Holocaust Memorial Service

The borough's Holocaust Memorial Service will be moving to an impressive new venue for next month's event – the recently-opened Ricketts Quadrangle of Middlesex University's Hendon campus.

The theme for this year's service, which takes place on 28 January at 1pm, is The Dignity of Difference: Same. But Different. Its aim is to encourage us to strengthen respect for the differences that enrich us as well as the similarities that unite us.

It is hoped that all communities will embrace the lesson to be learned from the Holocaust: by looking at how the Jews, Gypsies, disabled, lesbian, gay, black and Slavic peoples were excluded and persecuted under Nazism, and drawing parallels with those in the modern world who are suffering similar treatment, they will realise

**It is imperative to strive towards creation of a society that embraces both our differences and our common humanity**

that it is imperative to strive towards creation of a society that embraces both our differences and our common humanity. A programme of distinguished guest speakers will feature at the service, including His Excellency the Rwandan Ambassador and local resident Mrs Mirjam Finkelstein, whose family had to flee Germany when she was only a few months old, only to face persecution and internment in Westerbork and then Belsen concentration camps.

The Ricketts Quadrangle of Middlesex University is located on the Burroughs, Hendon, NW4 4BT. For more information about the Holocaust Memorial Service call 020 8359 2493.

## Remembering the children of the Holocaust



Schoolchildren from around the borough took a break from lessons last month to help the Mayor of Barnet plant 10,000 snowdrop bulbs in Sunny Hill Park, Hendon.

Barnet's Snowdrop Project aims to plant 1.5 million snowdrops in memory of every child killed in the Holocaust – 23,000 have been planted to date. Residents are encouraged to plant their own tributes to swell the numbers.

## Could you be a 'friend' to our parks?

As we look forward to spring, what better way to spend your weekend than walking in one of Barnet's many parks?

Barnet is well known for its open spaces and the borough has a large number of 'Friends of Parks' groups who liaise with the council to keep their local park looking its best. Could you join them?

As well as getting involved in activities like bulb planting, organising events and advising the council on major conservation and restoration projects, the charitable status of Friends' groups mean they can apply for funding to improve the appearance of their parks.

The Friends of Oak Hill Park were recently awarded enough money to install a brand-new multi-sports court.

Councillor Matthew Offord, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, said: "Friends of Parks groups provide invaluable support to our greenspaces officers, and enable extra funding to be channelled into constantly improving our already excellent open spaces."

To find out about existing groups, or setting up a new group, call the greenspaces team on 020 8359 7384 or email parks@barnet.gov.uk

## Race crime line launched

Racist crime can have a devastating effect on its victims' lives. But it's one of the most under-reported types of crime.

That's why the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership has launched the Racial Incident Reporting Line – 020 8733 4002.

Calls go directly through to the Safer Communities team who can provide a multi-agency response to victims, such as working with housing associations or using anti-social behaviour legislation.

All calls are strictly confidential. People are asked to leave their contact details and an officer will respond within 24 hours.

## Cutting-edge learning disability services



Councillor Lynne Hillan, Cabinet Member for Community Services, has cut the ribbon on two state-of-the-art learning disability services.

Valley Way Respite Service in Barnet (pictured) was officially opened on 28 November. The six-bed centre provides short breaks to parents and family members who are supporting people living at home. It allows people with learning disabilities and complex needs to enjoy a range of stimulating activities.

Flower Lane in Mill Hill, a centre designed specially for people with autism, was unveiled on 6 December. The centre supports people to develop daily living and communication skills by engaging in community activities.

Both facilities are working towards accreditation with the National Autistic Society to ensure best practice in supporting people with autism to fulfil their potential.

# Working towards a safer Barnet



**600 fewer victims of assault  
246 fewer households burgled  
404 fewer vehicles stolen  
166 fewer people robbed  
321 fewer vehicle crimes**

\*These figures show performance from April to November 2006 in comparison to the same period in 2005.

**Over the last year, the council and police working together have achieved a series of reductions in the type of crimes which seriously affect families and the vulnerable – street robbery, burglary and car crime.**

Through working together with the London Fire Brigade, Barnet Primary Care Trust and Barnet Voluntary Service Council, as the Barnet Safer Communities Partnership, crimes like distraction burglary and hate crime have also fallen over the last year.

From April to November 2006, 246 fewer households were burgled in comparison to the same period in 2005, there were 404 fewer vehicles stolen, and 600 fewer victims of assault.

A significant investment by the council in developing its CCTV network during 2006 has contributed to these reductions. In July, the 100th Barnet camera went live in Finchley.

The results have been welcomed by the borough's Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Community Engagement. Councillor Brian Coleman said: "Some

excellent results have been achieved this year, we are working hard to make Barnet the safest place to live and work in the capital.

"Residents will feel assured that the council, working alongside the police, is making Barnet safer."

In survey after survey residents say that tackling crime and increasing community safety are their top priorities. Barnet Council prioritises clearing graffiti, dealing with

**"Residents will feel assured that the council, working alongside the police, is making Barnet safer."**

teenage gangs, taking action on abandoned vehicles, fly-tipping, and other types of anti-social behaviour.

Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) have their place, and the partnership currently has 26, with more in the pipeline, but here in Barnet we try to solve the problem behaviour by encouraging "offenders" to sign Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) - over 105 of them so far.

These are very successful, but to stop anti-social behaviour ruining the lives of our

residents, our anti-social behaviour team are able to take more drastic action where necessary. So far, two council tenants have been evicted due to anti-social behaviour.

To encourage trust and confidence with people who feel uncomfortable dealing directly with the police or the council, in 2006 we improved the quality of our 23 third-party crime reporting sites, where people can report crime in a setting in which

they feel comfortable – such as a community centre or housing office. Early last year volunteers were provided with training by the police on recording crimes and dealing with victims.

Anyone is able to go to a third party reporting site and their report will be dealt with confidentially.

To find out more about third party reporting call 020 8733 4597 or for the Safer Communities Partnership, visit [www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk) or call 020 8359 7264.

## Webwatch

What's new on Barnet Online in January and February?

Want to access statistical and geographical information related to the London Borough of Barnet? Visit [www.barnet.gov.uk/informationobservatory](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/informationobservatory)

Companies and organisations can now build their own Travel Plan online. Find out more: [www.barnet.gov.uk/travel-plans](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/travel-plans)

Until August 2007 you can apply for equipment or minor adaptations by completing a self-assessment form. Find out more and download a form at [www.barnet.gov.uk/adult-social-services-self-assessment-pilot](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/adult-social-services-self-assessment-pilot)

Details of ex-library books and videos sales in Barnet libraries: [www.barnet.gov.uk/sales-old-books](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/sales-old-books)

# More residents get in the recycling habit

People living in flats are now being encouraged to join the recycling boom that has seen the amount of waste recycled in Barnet soar.

A grant from the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) has allowed us to commission teams of recycling promoters from national charity Waste Watch to visit all flats with communal recycling bins and give residents that we talk to a reusable bag to store recyclable items, and an information leaflet on recycling.

More than 15,000 households will be visited during the three-month campaign, as the council looks to increase the number of residents who use their on-site facilities to recycle green, clear and brown glass bottles and jars, paper, cans, foil and aerosols.

Councillor Matthew Offord, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, said: "We provide high quality recycling facilities for flats and the task now is to get even more of our residents to use them.

"This high-profile campaign aims to get the recycling message to every flat resident in the borough.

"If we can encourage flat-dwellers to follow the example of people living in houses, then it will impact massively on our recycling rate."

Recycling paper, cans and glass has been compulsory for all residents living in houses in Barnet since March 2005. The move has helped to increase the borough's recycling rate from 16.71% in 2003/4 to 27.47% in 2005/6.

The best way to cut the amount of waste that goes to landfill sites is to produce less in the first place. Tips on how to be a smart shopper can be found on the recycling pages at [www.barnet.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/recycling)



## Festive recycling – how to start 2007 in the greenest possible way

### Christmas trees

If your household uses the Green Garden and Kitchen Waste collection service, leave your Christmas tree out alongside your green wheeled bin on your scheduled collection day. If not, take your tree to the Civic Amenity and Recycling Centre at Summers Lane, N12 and place it in the green waste container for composting.

### Christmas cards

Take your cards to local libraries or the Civic Amenity and Recycling site before 31 January 2007 and put them in the special bins provided. Alternatively you can take cards to participating WH Smith or Tesco stores.



 **Barnet College**

**Taking you to where you want to be**

## Want something better?

Do you know someone who's left school and struggling to find a job or a direction in life? Sometimes reality only hits home when young people go out into the world. We know it can be hard.

Barnet College is offering them chances to get their lives back on track with courses that start in the New Year, even if they have no formal qualifications:

- **Art, Design, Media, Performance** BTEC First Certificate Level 1
- **Business** BTEC Level 1 Introductory Diploma
- **Carpentry and Joinery** Foundation Construction Award
- **Childcare** Cache Entry Level Certificate in Preparation for Childcare

Courses start in January and we are enrolling now. Please call our friendly Course Information team for help and advice on the number below.

Course Information

**020 8266 4000**

Typetalk for people who are Deaf/hearing impaired: 18001 020 8200 8300

[info@barnet.ac.uk](mailto:info@barnet.ac.uk)

[www.barnet.ac.uk](http://www.barnet.ac.uk)



# What's on in Barnet during January and February 2007

## Arts

### Come out to live, come in to play until 3 June 2007

Museum of Domestic Design and Architecture (MoDA), Middlesex University, Cat Hill, Barnet EN4 8HT. This latest exhibition tells the story of the relationship between London and its suburbs through London Underground posters from the 1920s and 30s. Cost: Free

## Sport/fitness

### Kixa Women's Central Power

The Green Man Community Centre, Strawberry Vale, East Finchley, N2 9BA. A great new way to get in shape and learn invaluable self-defence skills. Class is open to women aged 12 to 60 – beginners welcome. For more information: email: evanslucy@yahoo.co.uk or call: 07929 203129. Cost: £20 annual membership, £3.50 per class, juniors (aged 12-16) £15 membership, £1.75 per class.

### Free shuttle – badminton

**Thursdays 6-8pm**  
Volleyball: Wednesdays 8-9.30pm. Queen Elizabeth's Leisure Centre, Meadway, Barnet, EN5 5RR. Open to boys and girls aged 12-18 years. More information or to book a place, call Barnet Health and Sport Development Unit on 020 8359 7817 or 07950 627740.

### Free throw

**Fridays 6-8pm (except school holidays)**  
Barnet Burnt Oak Leisure Centre, Watling Avenue, Edgware, HA8. For people who enjoy basketball and want to learn and improve their skills and play matches. For boys and girls aged 12+. More information: contact Barnet Sport and Development Unit on 020 8359 7818 or 07984 407687. Cost: free.

### Free dance

**Saturdays 9.15 - 11.15am (except school holidays)**  
St Andrews Church, Lynford Gardens, off Broadfields Avenue, Edgware, HA8. A chance to improve dancing skills and perform on stage. For boys and girls aged between eight and 16 years. For more information contact Barnet Sport and Development Unit on 020 8359 7818 or 07984 407687.

## Miscellaneous



### Finchley Army Cadet Force every Monday and Wednesday 7.30 – 9.30pm

Finchley Cadet Centre, 444 High Road, Finchley, N12 0AE. A national youth organisation for young people aged between 12 and 18 providing challenging, adventurous and fun activities, including military tactics, physical training, first aid and much more. Cost: free.

### Barnet Plus Social and Leisure Group

**Sunday nights 8.45pm**  
Upstairs function room, The Bull and Butcher, 1277 High Road, Whetstone N20. Social and leisure activities for 18-35 year olds. More details: visit [www.barnetplus.com](http://www.barnetplus.com) or call Mark on 020 8361 2827. Cost: free.

### Line dance

**Thursdays 8.30 – 10.30pm**  
Sacred Heart Church, Flower Lane, Mill Hill, NW7. Beginners most welcome. Further details: call Marjorie on 020 8445 6580. Cost: £3.

### Barnet and Finchley Photographic Club

**every Thursday 8pm**  
37 Salisbury Road, High Barnet, EN5. Newcomers welcome. Contact Mr Charles on 020 8449 6809 for more information. Annual subscription: £45.

## Council meetings – dates for your diary

Meetings are open to the public and are generally held at the Town Hall, Hendon starting at 7pm, unless otherwise stated. Area Forums (which start at 6.30pm) meet at a variety of venues around the borough, and details can be found online, on our posters or by contacting the Democratic Services team on 020 8359 2031. Members of the public can ask to speak at most meetings. Further information can be obtained by contacting Democratic Services.

### January

- 3 Hendon Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 9 Finchley and Golders Green Area Planning Sub-Committee; Chipping Barnet Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 10 General Functions Committee (special meeting re. budget)
- 15 Cabinet
- 16 First Class Education and Children Overview and Scrutiny Committee; Cabinet Resources
- 17 Planning and Environment Committee
- 22 Cabinet Overview and Scrutiny
- 23 Council
- 24 Barnet Area Forum; Finchley Area Forum; Hendon Area Forum
- 29 Tackling Crime and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee; Special Committee (Constitution Review)
- 30 Chipping Barnet Area Planning Sub-Committee; Cleaner, Greener, Transport and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 31 Hendon Area Planning Sub-Committee

### February

- 1 Finchley and Golders Green Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 6 Resources, Performance and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 7 Standards Committee; Supporting the Vulnerable in our Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 8 First Class Education and Children Overview and Scrutiny Committee (and/or 20 Feb – see below)
- 14 Planning and Environment Committee
- 15 Cleaner, Greener, Transport and Development Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 19 Cabinet Resources
- 20 First Class Education and Children Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 21 Whetstone Area Forum; Golders Green and Childs Hill Area Forum; Edgware, Burnt Oak and Mill Hill Area Forum
- 26 Cabinet; Hendon Area Planning Sub-Committee
- 28 Finchley and Golders Green Area Planning Sub-Committee; Audit Committee

# Meet... your members

**Note: All codes are 020 unless otherwise indicated.**

## **Brunswick Park Ward**

### **Lynne Hillan (Con)**

8445 5101  
cllr.l.hillan@barnet.gov.uk

### **Andreas Tambourides (Con)**

8368 5417  
cllr.a.tambourides@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

Second Saturday every month,  
Osidge Library, Brunswick Park  
Road, N11  
10.30am-12 noon

### **Lisa Rutter (Con)**

8445 3829  
cllr.l.rutter@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

Last Saturday every month, Osidge  
Library, Brunswick Park Road, N11  
2.30pm-4pm

## **Burnt Oak Ward**

### **Claire Farrier (Lab)**

8959 7908  
cllr.c.farrier@barnet.gov.uk

### **Linda McFadyen (Lab)**

Deputy Leader of the Labour group  
8364 8782  
cllr.l.mcfadyen@barnet.gov.uk

### **Charlie O-Macauley (Lab)**

8905 9205  
cllr.c.omacauley@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

Saturdays, Burnt Oak Library,  
Watling Avenue, HA8  
10.30am – 12noon

## **Childs Hill Ward**

### **Jack Cohen (LibDem)**

8446 7940  
cllr.j.cohen@barnet.gov.uk

### **Monroe Palmer (LibDem)**

Liberal Democrat Group Leader  
8455 5140  
cllr.m.palmer@barnet.gov.uk

### **Susette Palmer (LibDem)**

8455 5140  
cllr.s.palmer@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

First Thursday every month, Childs  
Hill Library, Cricklewood Lane,  
NW2  
7 – 8pm

## **Colindale Ward**

### **Danish Chopra (Lab)**

8449 9046  
cllr.d.chopra@barnet.gov.uk

### **Gill Sargeant (Lab)**

8455 1070  
cllr.g.sargeant@barnet.gov.uk

### **Zakia Zubairi (Lab)**

8959 4091  
cllr.z.zubairi@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

Saturdays, Grahame Park Library,  
The Concourse, Colindale, NW9  
10 – 11am

## **Coppetts Ward**

### **Barry Rawlings (Lab)**

8445 6416  
cllr.b.rawlings@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

First and third Saturday every  
month, Peter le Poer Church,  
Colney Hatch Lane, N10  
10.30am – 12noon

Other Saturdays, Friern Barnet  
Library, Friern Barnet Road, N11  
10.30am – 12noon

### **Kate Salinger (Con)**

8368 6345  
cllr.c.salinger@barnet.gov.uk

### **Mukesh Depala (Con)**

8365 3614  
cllr.m.depala@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

First Saturday every month, Friern  
Barnet Library, Friern Barnet Road,  
N11  
10.30am – 12noon

Second Saturday every month,  
South Friern Library, Colney Hatch  
Lane, N10  
10.30am – 12noon

## **East Barnet Ward**

### **Terence Burton (Con)**

8368 7366  
cllr.t.burton@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

Second Saturday every month,  
East Barnet Library, 85 Brookhill  
Road, East Barnet, EN4  
10.30am – 12noon

### **Olwen Evans (Con)**

8368 1986  
cllr.o.evans@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

First Saturday every month, The  
Community Centre, Victoria Road,  
New Barnet, EN4  
10.30am – 12noon

Third Saturday every month, East  
Barnet Library, 85 Brookhill Road,  
East Barnet, EN4  
10.30am – 12noon

### **Robert Rams (Con)**

cllr.r.rams@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

Fourth Saturday every month,  
East Barnet Library, 85 Brookhill  
Road, East Barnet, EN4  
10.30am – 12noon

## **East Finchley Ward**

### **Andrew McNeil (Lab)**

8365 3948  
cllr.a.mcneil@barnet.gov.uk

### **Alison Moore (Lab)**

Leader of the Opposition  
(Labour group leader)  
8343 0306  
cllr.a.moore@barnet.gov.uk

### **Colin Rogers (Lab)**

8444 7150  
cllr.c.rogers@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

Saturdays, East Finchley  
Neighbourhood Centre, Church  
Lane, East Finchley, N2  
10 – 11.30am

## **Edgware Ward**

### **Helena Hart (Con)**

8371 0658  
cllr.h.hart@barnet.gov.uk

### **Joan Scannell (Con)**

8959 5921  
cllr.j.scannell@barnet.gov.uk

### **Richard Weider (Con)**

8958 0640  
cllr.r.weider@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

Last Tuesday every month,  
Edgware Library, Hale Lane,  
Edgware, HA8  
5.30 – 6.30pm

## **Finchley Church End Ward**

### **Michael Freer (Con)**

Leader of the Council  
(Conservative group leader)  
8349 2540  
cllr.m.freer@barnet.gov.uk

### **Eva Greenspan (Con)**

Mayor  
8203 1598  
cllr.e.greenspan@barnet.gov.uk

### **Daniel Thomas (Con)**

cllr.d.thomas@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

First Wednesday every month,  
Avenue House, East End Road,  
Finchley N3  
7.30 – 8.30pm

## **Garden Suburb Ward**

### **Andrew Harper (Con)**

8209 3981  
cllr.a.harper@barnet.gov.uk

### **John Marshall (Con)**

8445 2597  
cllr.j.marshall@barnet.gov.uk

### **Jazmin Naghar (Con)**

8458 2466  
cllr.j.naghar@barnet.gov.uk

#### **Surgery details:**

Fourth Monday every month,  
Fellowship House, Willifield Way,  
NW11  
6 – 7pm

**Golders Green Ward****Dean Cohen (Con)**

07786 543866  
 cllr.d.cohen@barnet.gov.uk

**Melvin Cohen (Con)**

7644 7211  
 cllr.m.cohen@barnet.gov.uk

**Christopher Harris (Con)**

07949 592512  
 cllr.c.harris@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**

Second Sunday every month,  
 Golders Green Library, Golders  
 Green Road, NW11  
 2.15 – 3.15pm

Fourth Sunday every month,  
 Hendon Sports Centre, Marble  
 Drive, Brent Cross, NW2  
 12noon – 1pm

**Hale Ward****Jane Ellison (Con)**

8201 0175  
 cllr.j.ellison@barnet.gov.uk

**Brian Gordon (Con)**

8931 5062  
 cllr.b.gordon@barnet.gov.uk

**Hugh Rayner (Con)**

8958 3364  
 cllr.h.rayner@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**

First Thursday every month  
 alternating between Edgware  
 Library, Hale Lane, Edgware, HA8,  
 and Mill Hill Library, Hartley  
 Avenue, NW7 (so 7 September –  
 MH, 5 October – Edgware)  
 6 – 7.30pm

**Hendon Ward****Maureen Braun (Con)**

8906 0447  
 cllr.m.braun@barnet.gov.uk

**Anthony Finn (Con)**

8202 9689  
 cllr.a.finn@barnet.gov.uk

**Matthew Offord (Con)**

Deputy Leader of the Council  
 (Conservative group deputy  
 leader)  
 8202 5319  
 cllr.m.offord@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**

First Monday every month, Action  
 Point, Town Hall, The Burroughs,  
 Hendon, NW4  
 6 – 7pm

**High Barnet Ward****Duncan Macdonald (Lib Dem)**

8440 3941  
 cllr.d.macdonald@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**

Every Saturday, Chipping Barnet  
 Library, Stapylton Road, Barnet, EN4  
 3.30 – 5pm

**Bridget Perry (Con)**

8441 5683  
 cllr.b.perry@barnet.gov.uk

**Wendy Prentice (Con)**

8364 9249  
 E: cllr.w.prentice@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**

Third Saturday every month,  
 Chipping Barnet Library, Stapylton  
 Road, Barnet, EN4  
 10.30am – 12noon

**Mill Hill Ward****Wayne Casey (LibDem)**

Deputy Leader of the  
 LibDemGroup  
 8906 8189  
 cllr.w.casey@barnet.gov.uk

**Jeremy Davies (LibDem)**

8381 0089  
 cllr.j.davies@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**

Saturdays, Mill Hill Library, Hartley  
 Avenue, NW7  
 10am – 12noon

**John Hart (Con)**

8959 5182  
 cllr.j.hart@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**

Selective Thursdays (ring for exact  
 dates), Mill Hill Library, Hartley  
 Avenue, NW7  
 6 – 8pm

**Oakleigh Ward****Sachin Rajput (Con)**

8381 0096  
 cllr.s.rajput@barnet.gov.uk

**Brian Salinger (Con)**

8368 1329  
 cllr.b.salinger@barnet.gov.uk

**Marina Yannakoudakis (Con)**

8445 8175  
 cllr.myannakoudakis@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**

First Saturday of every month at  
 Friern Barnet Library, Friern Barnet  
 Road, N11 10.30am-12noon

Third Saturday every month,  
 Barnet House, 1255 High Road,  
 Whetstone, N20  
 10.30am – 12noon

**Totteridge Ward****Brian Coleman (Con)**

8349 2024  
 cllr.b.coleman@barnet.gov.uk

**Richard Cornelius (Con)**

8445 5886  
 cllr.r.cornelius@barnet.gov.uk

**Caroline Margo (Con)**

cllr.c.margo@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**

Third Saturday every month,  
 Barnet House, 1255 High Road,  
 Whetstone, N20  
 10.30am – 12noon

**Underhill Ward****Fiona Bulmer (Con)**

8441 5258  
 cllr.f.bulmer@barnet.gov.uk

**Daniel Webb (Con)**

8445 9158  
 cllr.d.webb@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**

Third Saturday every month,  
 Chipping Barnet Library, Stapylton  
 Road, Barnet, EN4  
 10.30am – 12noon

**Anita Campbell (Lab)**

8440 2703  
 cllr.a.campbell@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**

First and third Saturday every  
 month, Chipping Barnet Library,  
 Stapylton Road, Barnet, EN5  
 2-3pm

**West Finchley Ward****Ross Houston (Lab)**

8446 6513  
 cllr.r.houston@barnet.gov.uk

**Kath McGuirk (Lab)**

8209 1462  
 cllr.k.mcguirk@barnet.gov.uk

**Jim Tierney (Lab)**

8346 3359  
 cllr.j.tierney@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**

Saturdays, 331 Ballards Lane,  
 North Finchley  
 10 – 11.30am

**West Hendon Ward****Julie Johnson (Lab)**

8203 3531  
 cllr.j.johnson@barnet.gov.uk

**Agnes Slocombe (Lab)**

8202 4074  
 cllr.a.slocombe@barnet.gov.uk

**Ansuya Sodha (Lab)**

8959 6035  
 cllr.a.sodha@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**

Saturdays, West Hendon  
 Community Centre, Marsh Drive,  
 West Hendon, NW9  
 10.30am – 12noon

**Woodhouse Ward****Geof Cooke (Lab)**

8446 8407  
 cllr.g.cooke@barnet.gov.uk

**Anne Hutton (Lab)**

8883 0996  
 cllr.a.hutton@barnet.gov.uk

**Alan Schneiderman (Lab)**

8731 9680  
 cllr.a.schneiderman@barnet.gov.uk

**Surgery details:**

Saturdays, 331 Ballards Lane,  
 North Finchley,  
 10 – 11.30am

**Contacting your MPs****Chipping Barnet****Theresa Villiers**

Office: 163 High Street, Barnet,  
 EN5 5SU  
 Tel: 020 8449 7345

**Finchley and Golders Green****Dr Rudi Vis**

Office: 38 Church Lane, East  
 Finchley, N2 8DT  
 Tel: 020 8883 0411

**Hendon****Andrew Dismore**

Office: St. George's Lodge, 79 The  
 Burroughs, Hendon, NW4 4AX  
 Tel 020 8202 2122

**Greater London Assembly  
 Member for Barnet and  
 Camden****Cllr Brian Coleman**

Office: City Hall, The Queen's  
 Walk, London, SE1 2AA  
 Tel: 020 7983 4367

## Chief Rabbi Sir Jonathan Sacks – a Freeman of Barnet!

Sir Jonathan Sacks, Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth, has been awarded the Freedom of the Borough by Barnet Council – the first to be bestowed since 1994.



Sir Jonathan receives his scroll from Barnet Mayor, Eva Greenspan

**He joins a roll of distinguished Freemen which includes The Rt Hon. Mrs Margaret Thatcher and the Royal Air Force, Hendon.**

The Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Eva Greenspan, welcomed nearly 400 distinguished guests to the celebration of the 350th resettlement of the Jews in England, and the presentation of the Freedom to Sir Jonathan Sacks, at *artsdepot*, North Finchley.

She said: "By bestowing this honour, the council is showing

the high regard in which Sir Jonathan is held, within this borough and beyond, as a communicator, a scholar and a respected worldwide ambassador for Britain's Jewish community."

Sir Jonathan said of his Freedom: "I feel very moved by this honour. I grew up in Barnet, went to school there and served a congregation within its boundaries.

"It is a wonderful place for which I have immense affection, and I am sure that the many Jewish residents of

Barnet will share my sense of thanksgiving."

Sir Jonathan lived in Golders Green with his wife Elaine and their family before he took up the office of Chief Rabbi, and has kept strong ties with the borough. He was a pupil at Christ's College, Finchley, before studying at Cambridge, Oxford and King's College, London, Jews' College and Yeshiva Etz Chaim. He is President of the London School of Jewish Studies, Hendon, and has his office in the borough.

## Ensuring everyone is equal

**The council has published its first Disability Equality Scheme which will put equalities and diversity issues at the heart of everything we do.**

The scheme is being championed by the council's Leader, Mike Freer, and promotes equality of opportunity and positive attitudes towards disabled people. It also encourages participation of disabled people in public life and aims to eliminate discrimination and harassment of disabled people.

Under the Disability Discrimination Act 2005 all public authorities are required to publish a plan detailing how they are going to promote disability equality.

Councillor Freer said: "Barnet Council has changed its approach to equalities and diversity to ensure that they are integral to everything we do.

"The council's Disability Equality Scheme aims to raise awareness and foster positive attitudes towards disabled people. It will make the borough more disability aware and create a truly inclusive Barnet."

The scheme was drawn up in consultation with Barnet's diverse communities, including disabled people and their representative organisations.

The council will ensure that its structures and processes are modified to support a change in attitude towards disabled people, as the new legislation requires.

We have set targets in a 12 month action plan which will be reviewed with active involvement from Barnet's disabled communities to create positive outcomes for all residents.

To read the council's Disability Equality Scheme, visit [www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk)

## Keeping Barnet moving

January and February are often the coldest time of the year but thankfully the council's gritting trucks are out on the streets in force.

Icy and snow-covered roads and footways can be extremely dangerous for motorists and pedestrians, which is why the council is keeping a sharp eye on weather forecasts and covering main routes and footpaths with rock salt, or grit, in preparation for extreme cold weather.

Our winter maintenance programme began in October and will continue into April. Last year, nearly 1,600 tonnes of grit were spread on Barnet's roads during 91 gritting sessions – the highest number of callouts for 14 years.

A total of 2,000 tonnes of grit were stockpiled by the council in October. This will be used to fill gritting lorries as well as the council's 339 grit bins across the borough.

Councillor Matthew Offord, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, said: "We take the problem of icy and snowy roads extremely seriously, and have taken all necessary precautions to ensure that Barnet can carry on moving, even in the worst weather conditions.

"Residents, motorists and businesses in the borough can rest assured that their safety is paramount for the council."

## Your pets are safe in Barnet

**Spotted a stray? Call the council's animal warden service.**



**Did you know the council runs an animal warden service to deal with stray pets?**

The service, run in conjunction with the Crown Protection Service, provides 24-hour collection of stray animals, animal rehoming, and 24-hour veterinary attention on standby.

Between 20 and 30 animals are collected every month, with calls coming to the service from residents, vets or the police.

If you have lost a pet, or have seen a stray animal in your area, the service can be contacted 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, by calling 020 8359 4600.