



People
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Our places
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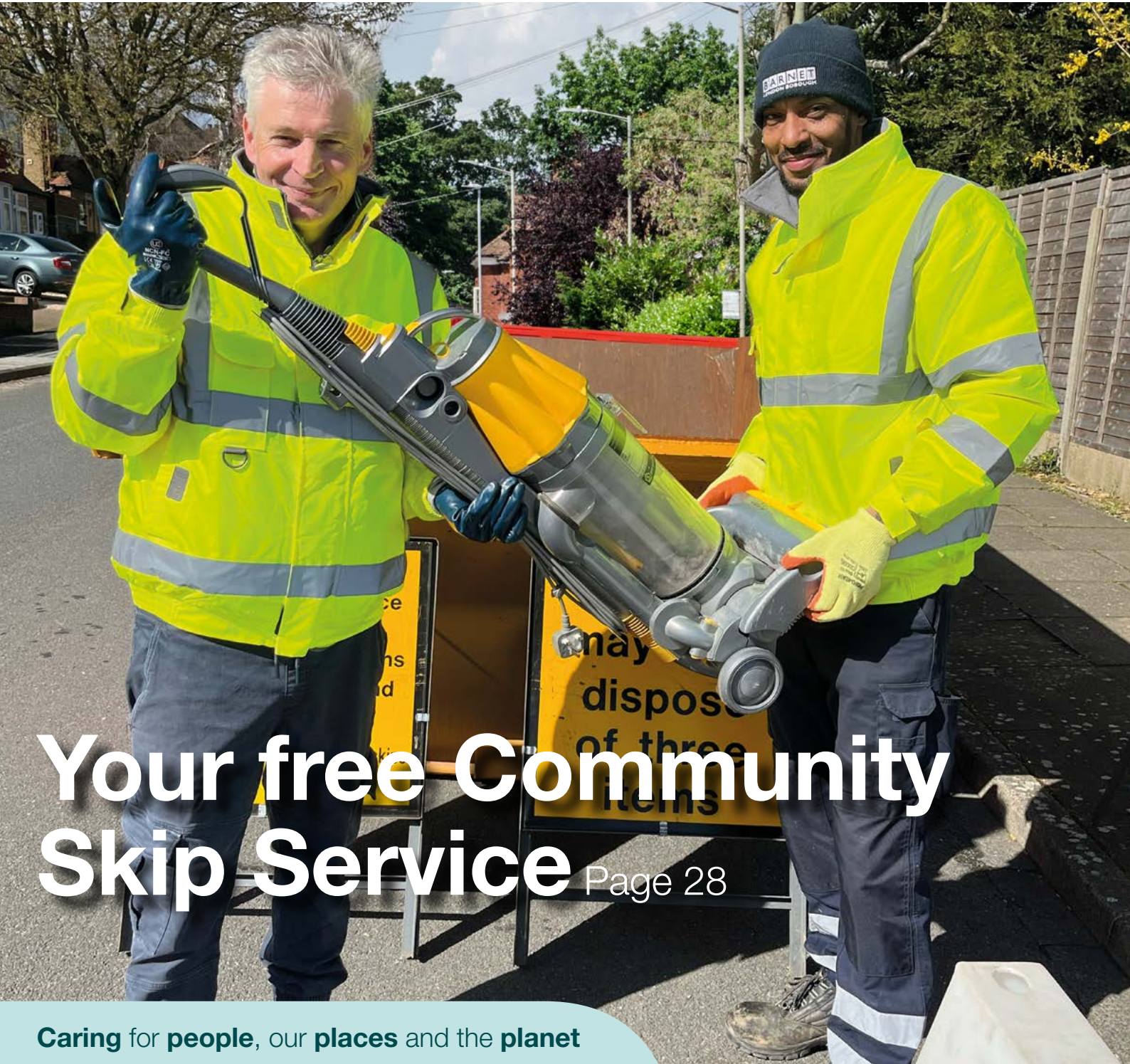


The planet
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barnetfirst

The council magazine bringing you news and community information

Spring edition April 2023



Your free Community Skip Service

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Caring for people, our places and the planet

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LONDON BOROUGH

Did you know there is also a weekly Barnet First eNewsletter?

Featuring a mix of news, service updates, events and activities, Barnet First eNewsletter already has 40,000 regular readers across the borough.



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You can also view recent issues of Barnet First eNewsletter at [barnet.gov.uk/news/barnet-first-enewsletter](https://www.barnet.gov.uk/news/barnet-first-enewsletter)



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Caring for people, our places and the planet

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BARNET
LONDON BOROUGH

Message from the Leader of the Council

Our new vision for Barnet

Barnet is a great place to live and work and we have big ambitions for it to be even better.

Since the last issue of Barnet First we've been working on Our Plan for Barnet 2023-2026, which sets out the council's vision for the borough. Our Plan is an operational route map to guide us on our journey towards achieving all the things we believe will make Barnet even better.

Central to Our Plan for Barnet is 'Caring for people, our places and the planet' because this is what we want to have at the heart of everything we do.

We want this to be your Plan too!

Our Plan is different from others the council has had before – it's been developed in partnership with residents, businesses, and communities. It is a living, breathing shared vision describing new ways that we can work together now and in the future. It will help us come up with local solutions to local problems together, like tackling inequality, reducing poverty, and getting to a net zero carbon council and borough. And it will help us make Barnet a fun destination with a real creative buzz that people want to travel to visit, not just commute from.

You make the difference

Our Plan will not be just another council document that sits and gathers dust on the shelves.

That's because we know we can only achieve this shared vision by continuing to work with you to implement it. We need to be at a neighbourhood level with our communities, asking for and listening to your views on how we run our services, invest in our places and giving you a say in decisions that affect you.

Join us on the journey!

Not all of this will be easy or comfortable for us as a council, and we won't always be able to do everything you ask of us. But we know that having that ongoing dialogue with residents about your priorities and what's possible is the only way we can live up to our commitment to be an engaged and effective council.

We want you to be on this journey with us, and that journey continues with this edition of Barnet First.

I hope you will get involved and help us unlock Barnet's potential together.

Delivering for Barnet

As well as working on Our Plan for Barnet, we've just agreed the council's budget which makes good on our pledge never to raise Council Tax by the legal maximum, and to refund last year's 1% Council Tax increase.

Barnet's Council Tax remains the lowest of all our neighbours, and puts in place the funding to deliver our promises to you: community skips, community safety hubs, better CCTV, more investment in street cleaning, pothole and pavement repairs and much, much more.

We got elected to transform the borough, but also to get the basics right, and that's what we're going to do.



Cllr Barry Rawlings,
Leader of Barnet Council



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Barnet First is a magazine filled with local news and community information for the borough of Barnet.

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

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You can see back issues of Barnet First magazine at: www.barnet.gov.uk/news-hub

Caring for people, our places and the planet

Barnet Council to plant 5,000 trees by 2028

Councillors voted in March to approve the new tree policy, which includes plans to plant 5,000 trees in the borough by 2028.

The policy will guarantee the replacement of every tree felled by the council, and aims to create what it calls 'a sustainable urban forest' for Barnet's residents.

Planting 1,000 trees a year for the next five years reflects the council's commitment to caring for people, places

and the planet. The policy builds on the progress the council has made in recent years to preserve and protect Barnet's trees, drawing on scientific research and expert advice.

Increasing the number of trees will play a role in hitting the target of being a net zero council by 2030 and borough by 2042.

More trees will also be a boon for Barnet's ecosystem, attracting more wildlife.



A secondary school place for every child who applied on time

Every Barnet parent who applied on time for a secondary school place for their child has received an offer of a place. This is the fourth year in a row that this has been achieved.

This year, the council received 7,864 on-time applications. 4,406 were from Barnet residents, and 3,458 were from residents in other boroughs.

Of those who applied, nearly 72% were successful in securing a place at their first choice of secondary school.

This year, nearly 90% who applied were offered at least one of their top three preferences.

Councillor Pauline Coakley Webb, Chair of the Children, Education and Safeguarding Committee, said: "As always, the popularity of our schools has meant a very high demand for places. I'm delighted that we've been able to provide a place for every pupil who applied on time, and I would like to wish all the students starting secondary school later this year every success."



Homes for Ukraine: one year on

Barnet has welcomed over 1,000 Ukrainian refugees since the Homes for Ukraine scheme was launched a year ago.

Around 710 households have opened their doors to those fleeing the war in Ukraine in what is one of the fastest and largest visa programmes in UK history, and over 1,000 households in the borough have registered an interest in becoming sponsors.

The council's partnership with BOOST has also allowed 13 refugees to successfully transfer their qualifications from Ukraine to a recognised qualification in the UK. BOOST has also helped another 13 people in finding employment in various areas, supported three people into their own business and four people into volunteering work.

Golders Green by-election

On Thursday 16 February a by-election was held to find a new councillor in Golders Green ward following the sad passing of long-standing councillor Melvin Cohen in January.

The seat was won by Conservative Party Candidate, Peter John Louis Zinkin, and the turnout was 27.2 per cent.

Barnet receives £400k funding to simplify planning applications



Barnet Council has received £400,000 in government funding for the development of a new online tool that will simplify the planning application process, making it more user-friendly for residents.

The money was awarded by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities as part of the national Open Digital Planning project

Barnet is one of a handful of councils to have received the funding, meaning residents will be among the first in the country to benefit from innovative new software that will automate and reduce paperwork in planning applications.

The first phase of the project will be trialled in Lambeth before being made available to Barnet’s residents to test. It is expected that the finished tool will be launched next year.

Council bans pets as prizes

Barnet councillors have unanimously agreed to back the ban of live animals being given out as prizes for all events held on council-owned land.

The decision supports the RSPCA’s ‘Pets as Prizes’ campaign, which urges local authorities to ban outright the giving of live animals as prizes on their land. Barnet is the third London borough alongside Redbridge and Enfield to join the campaign. 44 local authorities in England and Wales have now banned this practice from taking place on their land.

The ‘Pets as Prizes’ campaign is largely aimed at the giving away of goldfish at funfairs where the use of unsuitable plastic bags means that the fish are likely to suffer from shock and oxygen deprivation, or even death due to changes in water temperature.

Unlike animals sold by a pet shop, animals that are given as prizes are currently not protected by animal welfare legislation, which means that welfare standards do not apply to them.



Celebrate the coronation of
His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort

Monday 8 May, 1pm-9pm, free entry

Golders Hill Park, NW3 7HE

Food and drinks stalls • Live music • Family funfair

Caring for **people**, our **places** and the **planet**

Caring for people, our places and the planet:

Our Plan for Barnet 2023-2026



Cllr Barry Rawlings

Leader of Barnet Council

“We want you to be on this journey with us. So, please get involved and help us unlock our potential as a borough together.”

Barnet is a great place to live and work but we have big ambitions for it to be even better.

We have a new vision for Barnet: one that puts caring for people, our places and the planet at the heart of everything we do.

In the autumn of 2022, we engaged with residents, businesses and communities to develop this shared vision and our new ways of working, which will turn it into a reality.

We know we can only achieve this vision by being an engaged and effective council, one that works at a neighbourhood level with community partners. We will also ask for and listen to residents' and communities' views on how we run our services and invest in our places, giving them a say in decisions that affect them.

We want you to be on this journey with us. So, please get involved and help us unlock our potential as a borough together.



Caring for people – our vision

- Work closely with organisations at a local level to fight poverty and tackle inequalities which affect everything from health to education and work opportunities; ensuring no one is held back, whatever their background
- Create a more family friendly borough, giving our children and young people the best possible start in life, with excellent education and support to grow
- Enable all residents – particularly our older and disabled communities – to live well so they can lead fit, healthy and happy lives, feeling safe in their own homes and as part of a supportive community



Caring for our places – our vision

- Enable residents to have their say in how we breathe life back into our streets, town centres and neighbourhoods, making them clean, safe and welcoming, and hubs for communities to enjoy their unique characters
- Provide affordable, good-quality homes for a wide range of household needs, all located within easy reach of essential services, transport and public amenities, green spaces and served by a strong local economy
- Become a borough of fun; a place to enjoy ourselves, where people can meet, experience arts, culture, events, sports and hobbies that reflect our diverse communities

Caring for people, our places and the planet



Caring for the planet – our vision

- Respond to the climate emergency and start the journey to becoming a net zero council by 2030 and a net zero borough by 2042, working with local people, communities and businesses so all can share in the benefits of greener living
- Improve our local environment, so that residents enjoy clean air and waterways and reduced flooding from extreme weather
- Look after our precious parks and green spaces in ways to attract and support a wide range of wildlife, and to make them happy places to have fun, relax and improve our health and wellbeing



An engaged and effective council – our vision

- Give more power and resources to community groups and voluntary, charity and faith organisations to tackle and solve local issues, recognising and valuing their local knowledge and expertise
- Form stronger partnerships between the council and local organisations so that residents and communities can have their say in important decisions and can benefit from better joined-up services and investment in their neighbourhoods
- Ensure our council services are easily accessible to all and that every time residents contact the council they have a good experience

Want more details?

Our Plan for Barnet 2023-26 sets out our vision and gives information on how we will put our plan into practice and deliver for our residents, communities and businesses. Read it here:

www.barnet.gov.uk/ourplan

Get involved

We want to work more closely with you – residents, community groups, and local organisations – to ensure we fund and support joined-up services that best reflect local needs, and direct investment so that it reaches our public places like streets, parks and town centres that need it most.

Engage Barnet will help you find and participate in discussions and consultations that interest you in Barnet. Have your say and take the opportunity to feedback, share your ideas, and influence decisions that matter to you. You can find out how we are using your feedback and ideas to help inform decisions.

We will also keep you updated on community news, events and how to get involved in your local community.

Please see: engage.barnet.gov.uk

You can also sign up to our weekly digital newsletter at: www.barnet.gov.uk/news/sign-our-enewsletter



Caring for people, our places and the planet

Our Plan for Barnet – how we're already bringing this to life

While Our Plan for Barnet is new, we are starting from a strong position.



Caring for our people

Helping residents into employment

Working in partnership with BOOST, the Barnet Education and Learning Service and the Shaw Trust, over the past year, we have helped more than 1,000 people in Barnet into a job.

This work has focused not only on job-ready Barnet residents but all those who are unemployed or want a change in career. This includes rough sleepers, graduates, people with disabilities, those furthest from the job market and those who lack confidence or motivation.

Each of the partners works with a huge variety of people from different backgrounds, so together we use tailored, person-centred approaches that help people overcome their own barriers and challenges and get them ready for employment.

For employment advice visit: boostbarnet.org



Caring for our places

Prioritising community safety

We have opened our first four Community Safety Hubs as part of range of new measures to help make it easier to report crime and concerns to help people feel safer in the borough.

Residents can now anonymously report or raise concerns about crime and anti-social behaviour in their area with dedicated council officers. Community Safety Hubs are now open weekly in Chipping Barnet, Edgware, North Finchley and West Hendon. More hubs around the borough will open in the coming months.

In addition to Community Safety Hubs, we have launched 'Ward Walks' in which councillors, council officers and Police visit local neighbourhoods to investigate reported anti-social behaviour-related issues. We are also investing an extra £2.3m to upgrade CCTV on our streets.

To find out more about our plans to improve community safety, see p22 or visit: www.barnet.gov.uk/community-safety



Caring for our places

Making Barnet a borough of fun

Barnet is a great place to live, and we also want it to be a place where we can all have fun too. And not just for those of us who live and work here.

We want to put Barnet on London's cultural map, celebrating it as a destination with a strong arts offer, innovative public art and a thriving creative economy.

We have a some way to go to achieve this, which is why we are starting by working with artists, cultural organisations and community groups to develop a new Culture Strategy.

We want to ignite Barnet's creative scene by putting art in the heart of our town centres by supporting artists, grassroots arts and culture groups.

Part of doing so will be giving a platform for us all to celebrate the diverse cultures, faiths and communities that make up Barnet and are united by our common humanity.

Look out for an exciting programme of events as part of the London Festival of Architecture in June.

Keep up to date by subscribing to the weekly Barnet First e-newsletter via MyAccount or follow us [@BarnetCouncil](https://twitter.com/BarnetCouncil).





Caring for the planet

New sustainable energy substation at Brent Cross

The Brent Cross Cricklewood regeneration programme is one of the largest regeneration schemes in Europe and is transforming this area of Barnet.

Sustainability is a key part of our ambitions and for Brent Cross Town, the development at the heart of our programme which pledges to be net zero carbon by 2030.

In January, together with our partners Related Argent, we unveiled a new artwork at Brent Cross Town with impressive green credentials. ‘Here we come, here we rise’ was created by London-based artist, Lakwena in collaboration with architects, IF_DO. Funded by central government, the public artwork wraps around a sustainable electrical substation which, in future, will power all of Brent Cross Town within its control from 100% renewables sources.

The construction of the substation was also completed using structural steel salvaged from unused oil pipelines, reducing the amount of carbon released by over 40%.

This is just one of the ways we will achieve our net zero carbon targets. Visit transformingbx.co.uk/sustainability to find out more.



Caring for our places

1,000 new affordable homes

As part of our target to build 1,000 new affordable rent homes, we have begun building 59 new council homes this spring.

The new homes will be built, in Broadfields Estate in Edgware, Coppetts Road in Muswell Hill and The Grange in East Finchley all at Greater London Authority affordable rent levels.

Built on infill sites on pre-existing Barnet Council estates, these new properties will include eight fully accessible wheelchair homes and six larger four-bed family homes.

Plans to redevelop the northeast part of the Grahame Park Estate in Colindale are also moving forward, with the development of around 500 new homes currently in the planning stages. The scheme will deliver 50% affordable housing including social rent and London living rent.



An engaged and effective council

Giving residents a voice

We have pledged a step-change in how we engage with residents to give them a say in decisions and issues that affect them.

Building on good practice already developed by some of our services, we will be involving our communities more fully in our work, co-designing services wherever possible.

For example, we have worked with volunteers and businesses in our local neighbourhoods to set up independent Town Teams to improve Barnet’s high streets and create thriving town centres.

In some areas, the team is using council grant funding to organise events such as arts and food festivals, while in others they are helping to improve the high street with better lighting and colourful murals.

We are also putting more money into community projects. Our Community Innovation Fund, set up in partnership with health and social care providers, has awarded £820,000 to over 50 local projects, including to support residents facing cost of living pressures.

A further £25,000 has been given to over 20 organisations to help them celebrate Winter Festivals such as Lunar New Year and we are currently working with the community to plan for the London Festival of Architecture, taking place in June 2023.



Caring for people, our places and the planet

Your Council Tax 2023-2024

This year's Council Tax bills landed on doormats in late March. Council Tax helps fund the services the council provides for Barnet's residents but keeping costs down is a priority as we tackle the cost-of-living crisis.

Support through challenging times

We are refunding last year's 1% Council Tax increase. You will see this through a 1% discount of your Council Tax bill this year. Although the Government has raised the threshold on the amount by which councils can put up Council Tax to 5%, we will not be doing this. We have found savings in the council's budget to ensure this year's increase is much lower at 3.8%, or 99p per week at Band D, including the Adult Social Care Precept. Prudent management of our finances means that Barnet will have one of the lowest Council Tax increases in London this year.

We know for some residents any increase in household bills will be difficult to manage. To help families who are in financial crisis, we have set up a £9m Resident Support Fund.

Full details for this fund and other cost-of-living support can be found here: www.barnet.gov.uk/benefits-grants-and-financial-advice/cost-living-support

Adult Social Care and GLA Precepts

Your Council Tax bill also includes Adult Social Care and Greater London Authority (GLA) Precepts.

The Adult Social Care Precept helps us fund much-needed support for our elderly residents.

With 80 residential care homes in the borough, and a growing elderly population that have increasingly complex and high needs this funding is crucial.

The GLA Precept helps fund the Metropolitan Police, Transport for London and London Fire Brigade.

The GLA Precept is set by the Mayor of London and the council has no control over the amount. It is increasing by 9.74% this year, or 74p per week for a Band D property.

Investing in our borough

We are investing to improve services in our borough, and to keep our streets safe and clean.

For example, we have reintroduced the popular free community skips service and have launched our first Community Safety Hubs and Ward Walks to identify crime and grime hotspots and clean them up.

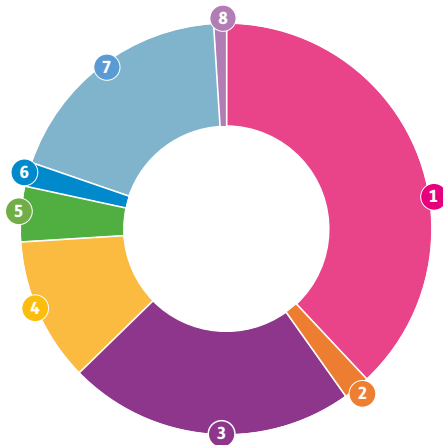
We are investing an additional £2.3m to upgrade the borough's CCTV, a further £500,000 on enhanced street cleaning and an extra £250,000 for pavement repairs.

For more information on Council Tax visit www.barnet.gov.uk/council-tax

Net expenditure for 2022/23

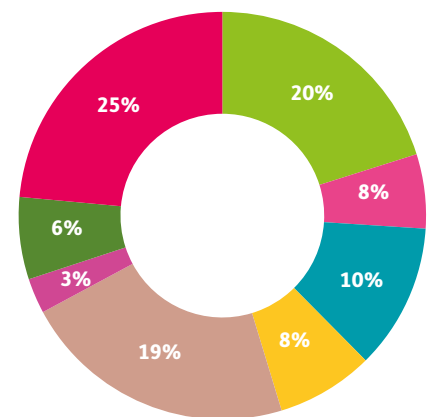
Our net budget for the coming year is £369.686 million. This is the core budget over which we have control. The charts below set out all our spending for 2023/24, and details where our money comes from.

How we will spend your Council Tax over the next year



Service Area	£m
1 Adults & Health	151.701
2 Assurance (incl. electoral services and internal audit)	7.271
3 Children's & Family Services	73.735
4 Support services (including IT, estates, customer service)	42.311
5 Environment	14.916
6 Housing & Development	5.152
7 Corporate Expenses (Housing Benefits, capital financing, levies and inflation)	70.532
8 Planning & Regulation	4.070
Total	369.686

Where our money comes from the next year



Where our money comes from	Income £m	%
Council Tax	214.612	20
Business Rates	81.110	8
Fees & Charges (excluding HRA)	107.635	10
Government Grants	80.982	8
Housing Benefit	199.227	19
Other contributions	35.639	3
Housing Revenue Account	63.997	6
Dedicated Schools Grant	267.223	25
Total	1,050.427	100

What we're delivering for you



Caring for people

- We launched a new **£2m** residents' support fund to help people struggling with the cost-of-living crisis, taking our total support to over **£9m**



- **1,000s** of residents enjoyed our biggest ever Black History Month, bringing together the borough's communities to celebrate with over **70** events
- Our carers helped **5,475** older people to stay in their own homes and enabled more than **2,500** to be discharged from hospital – more than ever before

Education

- Our secondary schools ranked third in England for **Attainment 8** for the last 2 years
- **Ofsted rating: 98.3%** of Barnet's schools are rated **'Good'** or **'Outstanding'** and we are in the top 10% of the country
- **100%** of children whose parents/carers applied on time received an offer of a Reception place



Caring for our places

- Our new community skips service has been used by more than **2,000** residents
- We're investing an extra **£2.3m** in CCTV upgrades across the borough



- We've made more than **16,600,000** bin collections and cleared **8,074** fly-tips
- We've started work to deliver **1,000 new council homes** at **50%** of market rental rates
- We're making Barnet a **'Borough of Fun'**, where people can enjoy themselves and connect with others. We are developing a new Culture Strategy and have launched a community events programme that has already supported **54** local groups to hold events
- With one of the **larger public library services** in London, we run a range of activities from reading groups and rhyme-time sessions to art, craft and music workshops. We will hold our next **literary festival** in May 2023



Caring for the planet

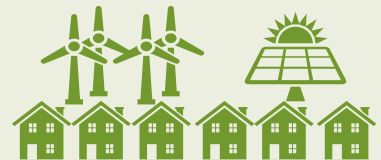
NET ZERO BY 2030



- We've declared a climate and biodiversity emergency and pledged to be a **net zero council by 2030** and a **net zero borough by 2042**



- We're installing **510** more electric vehicle charging points

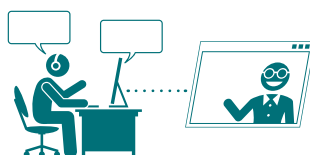


- We've installed decarbonisation measures to **17 buildings**, which will reduce carbon emissions by **287 tonnes of carbon** per year



An engaged and effective council

- We're **involving communities** more closely in shaping our services and local areas. We've set out how in our new **Community Participation Strategy**
- A new call-back option added to our phone service and **British Sign Language** and **ReciteMe** tools in our online service will make it easier for people to contact us
- We've started to **webcast** council and committee meetings to improve accessibility and transparency in decision-making and will shortly be rolling out **hybrid meetings** to make it easier for people to get involved



People

Keeping your home healthy – condensation, mould and damp advice

Keeping your home healthy is essential for a comfortable and safe living environment.



One of the biggest challenges that residents face in the home is dampness, which can lead to the growth of mould and other health hazards.

Barnet Council is aware of this problem and has been working towards providing residents with advice on how to keep their properties healthy, providing information on dampness, mould and condensation, along with top tips to tackle these issues.

Dampness can be caused by a range of factors, such as leaking pipes, missing roof tiles, defective damp proof course, and condensation. Condensation is a common issue in poorly heated, insulated or ventilated homes, especially during colder weather.

It occurs when warm air comes into contact with cold surfaces, leading to moisture build-up and tiny droplets of water appearing. This can cause staining, mould growth, and damage to your home, furniture, and clothing. In extreme cases mould growth can also have severe health consequences, including respiratory problems and asthma.

It is crucial to tackle dampness and condensation in your home as soon as you notice any signs.

You can use a bleach and water solution or mould remover spray to wipe down walls and window frames for less severe cases of mould and to prevent mould.

If you are a private tenant and notice any property defects causing dampness, notify your landlord immediately as it is the landlord's responsibility to fix the problem.

If the landlord fails to address the issue, enforcement action may be taken by the council. Private Sector Housing residents can report unresolved issues to Environmental Health on environmentalhealth@barnet.gov.uk or call **0208 359 7995**.

Council residents can report damp or mould using Barnet Homes' online form at [barnethomes.org/report-damp](https://www.barnethomes.org/report-damp). Here you can upload photos of your home so that we can assess and treat any damp and mould more effectively.

Residents can also report damp or mould by emailing healthyhomesteam@barnethomes.org or calling **020 8080 6587**.

For further information on keeping your home healthy visit: www.barnet.gov.uk/mouldanddamp



To minimise damp and mould, some simple tips include:

1. wiping condensation from windows and sills
2. putting lids on pans when boiling foods
3. opening windows after having a shower
4. drying clothes outside if possible, and
5. closing doors when cooking or showering



People

Creating a Dementia Friendly Barnet

A dementia friendly community built on understanding, respect and support

Last year, the Alzheimer’s Society recognised the borough of Barnet as working towards becoming a Dementia Friendly Community – a place where people living with dementia are understood, respected and supported.

With over 7,000 Barnet residents expected to be living with dementia by 2040, it is vital that we create a positive and supportive environment that enables those with dementia and their families and carers to live well.



Much more than just a job



Barnet’s Dementia Friendly Partnership Lead, Seher Kayikci, shares how her personal experience of dementia motivates her to dedicate her time supporting Barnet to continue working towards becoming a dementia friendly community.

“I’m so privileged to be given the responsibility for leading Barnet’s Dementia Friendly Partnership. For me, this is much more than a job. My mother had dementia at an early age, so I have personally experienced the challenges involved when caring for someone with dementia.

“We’re all likely to be affected by dementia in some way in our lifetime, whether as an individual or in caring for a relative, friend or neighbour. I strongly believe that making where we live as dementia friendly as possible will help a lot of families to feel accepted and safe.

“This is why we invite everyone to become a Dementia Friend, to learn more about dementia and be part of our journey to becoming a dementia friendly community. Barnet’s Dementia Friendly Partnership is also open to anyone, including people affected by dementia and their carers.”

Be part of the dementia friendly movement

Become a Dementia Friend

Barnet is currently home to over 15,000 Dementia Friends. Being a Dementia Friend is a great way to show support, raise awareness and improve understanding of dementia.

Register your interest to complete the free Dementia Friend training at www.dementiafriends.org.uk/register-digital-friend

Join the Dementia Friendly Barnet Partnership

The partnership is open for anyone to join and is made up of an ever-growing network of local organisations, community groups, faith groups, businesses and local people, including people living with dementia and their carers. To find out more and be part of helping to create an environment where people living with dementia can live well and contribute to community life, contact Seher.Kayikci@barnet.gov.uk

Meet John, 74, living with dementia

John was referred to Age UK Barnet after a dementia diagnosis, but he was reluctant to get involved in new activities, despite feeling very lonely and isolated. One of the team convinced him to come to Age UK Barnet’s Day Club - and he hasn’t looked back.

“John recently brought in his impressive display of weightlifting trophies and photos from his competing days. In 1990, he achieved both the British Masters record and won the European championships. He was incredibly proud to be able to show off his medals and to talk about his past successes. He has completely blossomed, I cannot believe the change in him.” – Sarah, Dementia Adviser, Age UK Barnet.



Are you living with dementia or caring for someone who does?

Barnet Carers offer carers practical support, information and advice, personal improvement, and mental health and wellbeing support, including a support group for carers run in partnership with Age UK Barnet. Visit: barnetcarers.org/dementia-friendly-barnet/ Tel: **0203 995 1909** Email: admin@barnetcarers.org

Age UK Barnet offer activities for people living with dementia and over 55s including Dementia Café, Singing Groups, Befriending and Living Well day centres. Their Dementia Adviser Service also provides advice and information and a link for the whole family to specialist support services.

Visit: www.ageuk.org.uk/barnet/our-services Tel: **020 8203 5040** Email: dementiasupport@ageukbarnet.org.uk

For more information, advice and support, visit www.barnet.gov.uk/dementiasupport

People

Celebrating Barnet's women and girls



Barnet Council launched a new awards scheme to celebrate the borough's inspirational women and girls of the past, present and future on International Women's Day (Wednesday 8 March).

InspirationALL
CELEBRATING BARNET'S WOMEN AND GIRLS

The InspirationAll Awards, which were launched at a special event at StoneX stadium, will annually recognise the inspiring work and accomplishments of women and girls in Barnet.

Award categories include: Business and Construction, Sport and Wellbeing, Environment and Sustainability, Inspiring Young Woman and Community and Culture. Everyone who lives, works, and studies in Barnet are able to vote.

The StoneX event was well attended by over 150 people from the voluntary, community and faith sector, and key partners including the Met Police. Guest

speakers included Dr Doirean Wilson, Senior Lecturer & Diversity Lead at Middlesex University, and Barnet resident Propa Rezwana Anwar, Vice Chair of The Barnet Multi Faith Forum, and Youth Council Events Manager for The Faith & Belief Forum.

There were also special performances from pupils at Copthall School and the Barnet Education Arts Trust.

Cllr Sara Conway, Community Leadership and Libraries Committee Chair, said: "International Women's Day is an opportunity to get together, discuss and celebrate the contributions women and

girls are making in Barnet, and to focus on addressing inequalities together.

"We are delighted to launch the InspirationAll Awards to recognise and celebrate the achievements of local residents, and to support a range of community events across the borough.

"These initiatives also underline our commitment to improving gender equality and combatting violence and toxicity, changing attitudes by empowering and celebrating women and girls."

Nominate your inspirational woman or girl by visiting: <https://engage.barnet.gov.uk/iwdawards>

Youth Assembly celebrated International Women's Day by taking over Hendon Town Hall to raise and debate motions on various topics.

Thank you to all the young people that attended and participated in the debate. Plus, a special mention to Suren who chaired the Youth Assembly meeting alongside the Worshipful Mayor of Barnet. There were amazing speeches and a poem from Tayla, Laila and Alessandra from BeLifted and Kelsea, Lauren and Laila presented their motions to other young people and councillors.

As a result of the debate, Youth Assembly would like to know what are the best books with female protagonists? What would you recommend for primary and secondary schools reading lists?

Let us know by messaging us on **Instagram @BarnetYouth_**



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🖱 barnet.gov.uk/sharedlives

Website



People

Protecting your child’s health starts with vaccination

Is your child up to date with their vaccinations?

Give your child a healthy start in life by following the childhood vaccination schedule.

Vaccinations protect children against many serious illnesses caused by childhood diseases such as:

- Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)
- Whooping Cough (Pertussis)
- Polio
- Flu (Influenza)
- Meningitis

Which vaccinations do over 12s need, and when?

At 12-13 years	HPV vaccine 1st dose (human papillomavirus vaccine)
At 12-13 years	HPV vaccine 2nd dose (human papillomavirus vaccine)
At 14/15 years	3 in 1 teenage booster (tetanus, diphtheria, polio booster)
At 14/15 years	Meningitis vaccine (meningococcal ACWY)

Which vaccinations do under 5s need, and when?

At 8 weeks old	6-in-1 vaccine • MenB vaccine • Rotavirus vaccine
At 12 weeks old	6-in-1 vaccine (second dose) • Rotavirus vaccine (second dose) Pnemococcal (PVC) vaccine
At 16 weeks old	6-in-1 vaccine (third dose) • MenB vaccine (second dose)
At 1 year	Hib / MenC vaccine • MMR vaccine (first dose) • Pnemococcal vaccine (second dose) • MenB vaccine (third dose)
At 2 years (from 2 – 11 years old)	Flu vaccine
At 3 years and 4 months	MMR vaccine (second dose) • 4-in-1 pre-school booster

How to get your child vaccinated

Contact your child’s doctor (GP surgery) to book an appointment and to check which vaccines your child has had. You can also check their personal child health record, the ‘Red Book’.

If your child has missed any vaccines, contact your doctor as soon as possible to catch up.

Visit bit.ly/vaccination-tips-for-parents for more information and advice, or can scan the QR code.



Measles is circulating, it is serious, very infectious and can cause complications.

If you or your child have not had both doses of your MMR jab you can contact your GP practice to make an appointment. You need two doses to be protected.

Find out more about the MMR vaccine at: www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/mmr-vaccine



How do we know vaccines are safe and effective?

- They undergo rigorous safety testing before being introduced – they’re also constantly monitored for side effects after being introduced.
- They may sometimes cause mild side effects but that will not last long – some children may feel a bit unwell and have a sore arm for 2 or 3 days.
- They reduce or even get rid of some diseases – if enough people are vaccinated.

Good food for all this spring

Eat well, connect with others and reduce waste

From its nutritional and cultural value, to bringing us together at the table, increasing social connections, and as part of our local economy and our natural environment, food plays an integral role in all of our daily lives.

Be part of Barnet's good food movement

As we continue to face a cost-of-living crisis and a climate crisis, organisations and individuals across Barnet are invited to join Barnet's Food Partnership. Together, let's continue supporting each other to access good food, eat well, reduce waste and share a deeper understanding of the vital and complex role of food. Contact food@barnet.gov.uk.

Help with food

If the rising cost of food is causing you to struggle to buy food, Barnet's network of food banks are here to help. The idea of visiting a food bank might feel overwhelming, but Barnet's friendly volunteers offer a warm welcome, a safe space and a food parcel.



How to use a food bank

Speak to your school, GP, pharmacy, or local voluntary and community organisation to help find a food bank near you, and to get a food voucher if you need one. Or contact the Trussell Trust on **0808 208 2138** (Mon – Fri, 9am-5pm, except bank holidays). Find out more: www.barnet.gov.uk/helpwithfood.



Healthy Start

If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk. Visit www.healthystart.nhs.uk or contact your nearest Children's Centre to find out if you're eligible.



Bread n Butter: Cooking on a budget

Free cookery classes to make healthy and nutritious food on a budget. Every Tuesday at Grahame Park Community Centre, 10am-12.30pm. Contact **Filomena@breadnbutter.org.uk** or call **07940 571676** to book your place.



Developed with the help of local people and communities, the Barnet Food Plan 2022-2027 outlines the council's vision for everyone who lives, works and studies in Barnet to have access to affordable and healthy food. Read the plan: www.barnet.gov.uk/barnetfoodplan

Donate if you can

If you're able to donate to a food bank, visit www.barnet.gov.uk/helpwithfood to find your nearest, and contact them to see what items they need most.

Nurturing Barnet's families to start and grow well

This spring, Barnet's healthy beginnings roadshows have been popping up at various locations across the borough to share health and wellbeing information and advice for parents, children and mums to be.

With plenty of fun activities and healthy snacks for the little ones, visitors learned about nutrition and eating well, nourishing good mental health and wellbeing, how to stay safe from childhood diseases, and where to get support with the rising cost of living.

For more information visit www.barnet.gov.uk/familyhealth

"I've found out lots of useful information on nutrition and child health today. It's helped me learn to be a bit more conscious about what my child is eating and to think about healthy options."

Barnet residents, Jennifer and Isla, visited the Healthy Beginnings Roadshow at Grahame Park



People

Join the BEAT Generation



Barnet Education Arts Trust (BEAT) absolutely loves to make music! Celebrating its tenth anniversary in 2023, BEAT offers young classical, jazz and rock musicians the opportunity to join bands and music groups at their three BEAT Music Academies, located in East Barnet, Mill Hill and Hendon.

BEAT offers the full range of instrumental music lessons in schools across Barnet and students can hire out orchestral instruments if they are having lessons with one of BEAT's 110 qualified and DBS-checked, experienced and diverse tutors.

BEAT also provides whole class instrumental tuition in schools, giving 30 children the opportunity to learn a brass, string or woodwind instrument all together.

As you would expect, BEAT stages concerts regularly in top concert venues such as the Royal Albert Hall and St John's Smith Square, senior groups go on European tours and every summer BEAT organises an amazing two-week festival at the Arts Depot in Finchley open to all Barnet schools.

BEAT also runs choirs for different age groups and an inclusive Access for All programme which promotes students with different levels of Special Education Needs ability so that they can make music together in a band setting.



Opportunities for all to learn music

BEAT is a not-for-profit organisation, receiving funding from the Department for Education through the Arts Council England (ACE).

It is part of a national network of music education hubs working with more than a million children and young people to deliver the National Plan for Music Education, established to ensure that children from all backgrounds and every part of England should have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, to make music with others, to learn to sing, and to have the opportunity to progress to the next level of excellence if they wish to. On top of all this, BEAT provides

training opportunities and advice for music teachers across Barnet and beyond with its links to eight other London boroughs through Music8London.

So, as we wish Barnet Education Arts Trust a very musical happy tenth birthday, isn't it time you joined the BEAT generation?



For details, contact
Sharon Broughall
at admin@beatrust.org.uk

Caring for our mental health and wellbeing

If you're experiencing feelings of anxiety, depression, loneliness or other mental health and wellbeing concerns, you are not alone. Whatever you feel is valid and Barnet's free support services are here to help.

Mental health and wellbeing support

Barnet Wellbeing Service T: 03333 449088 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm)
E: info@barnetwellbeing.org.uk

W: www.barnetwellbeing.org.uk – will refer or signpost you to services and activities, including Barnet Friends which provides befriending support to residents aged 18-55.

Barnet Friends supported Mary to tackle acute isolation and loneliness:

'I was unsure about seeking help. But without Barnet Friends I would never have had the confidence to join the sewing club or start volunteering. My befriender helped me make positive choices for my mental health.'



Urgent help

Samaritans T: 116 123 E: jo@samaritans.org Open 24/7.

Sanctuary Barnet (Crisis Café) T: 020 8343 5704.

Mon-Fri 4.30-10.30pm. Sat-Sun 12-6pm.

E: SanctuaryBarnet@mindeb.org.uk W: www.mindeb.org.uk

Immediate emotional support for anyone experiencing distress.

Online help

Visit www.good-thinking.uk and www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters for practical tips and advice to help you look after your mental health and wellbeing. Download the **Stay Alive App** (www.stayalive.app) for those at risk of suicide and people worried about someone.

For children and young people

www.kooth.com offers free online counselling for 11-25s and

www.papyrus-uk.org offers confidential suicide prevention advice.

NHS mental health crisis helpline for under 18s experiencing a mental health crisis. T: 0800 151 0023. Open 24/7.

Visit www.barnet.gov.uk/youthmentalhealth for more support for children and young people.

Step into spring!

As the weather warms, why not get out and enjoy the great outdoors by exploring your local area?

Walking is a great way to move more and help you improve your physical and mental health and wellbeing. No equipment is required apart from comfortable shoes and maybe a waterproof jacket to keep dry from those spring showers. Step out for free with family and friends, or join an organised group at minimal cost.



Healthy Heritage Walks

Step out for an audio guided tour of Barnet. Download Barnet's free audio guides and maps to listen to interesting stories about historical and natural points of interest while you enjoy a walk.

Active Trails

Walk, jog, run or cycle Barnet's Active Trails. The pre-plotted routes vary in length and difficulty so you can choose the one for you and go at your own pace, or enjoy with family and friends.

Free Health Walk with a FAB card
Get your first Health Walk for free and save a further 10% on block bookings with a Fit and Active Barnet (FAB) card.



Join a Health Walk

Seven organised Health Walks take place every week in parks and open spaces across the borough, which are led by qualified and experienced instructors. The walks are suitable for anyone over the age of 18 and are graded for their difficulty to help you find a walk that's suitable for you. £2.80 per walk. Discounts for block bookings and over 60s.

Visit www.better.org.uk/fab-active-outdoors to find a walk near you.

Over 40? Check your health for free at a Community Health Screening

Check your blood sugar levels, cholesterol levels, blood pressure, and height, weight and body mass index (BMI) for free at a Community Health Screening. Healthcare professionals will also provide tailored advice to help you stay well and healthy.

The Community Health Screening service is a free service for anyone over the age of 40 who lives, works or studies in Barnet. You do not need to be registered with a GP. For upcoming dates and locations, visit: www.barnet.gov.uk/healthscreen

Register for your free FAB card

at www.better.org.uk/fab-hub or visit your nearest Better leisure centre.

The FAB card is a free membership available to Barnet residents, providing access to a range of discounts and benefits across all five Barnet leisure centres and community activities.

Get active, give it a go!

For many more ways to stay fit and active in Barnet for free, or at minimal cost, visit the Fit and Active Barnet Hub www.better.org.uk/fab-hub or drop into your nearest Barnet leisure centre.

Have fun exploring with the whole family

Head out for a nature scavenger hunt and have fun together exploring Barnet's many green spaces!

See if you can spot these items and chat about what you find...

- Which did you like best and why?
- What do you like about walking in nature?
- What part of the park is your favourite and why?
- Why is it important to take care of nature? How can we do that?
- If you could wave a magic wand, what would you wish for this park?

NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT

Try to spot all of these items

Let's chat about what we found!

- Which items do you like best and why?
- What do you like about walking in nature?
- What part of the park is your favourite and why?
- Why is it important to take care of nature? How can we do that?
- If you could wave a magic wand, what would you wish for this park?

Places



Brent Cross Cricklewood regeneration update

The Brent Cross Cricklewood regeneration programme continues to transform the area. This quarter has seen a new colourful landmark unveiled, opportunities to support our existing communities with jobs and skills and more information on our net zero carbon by 2030 target.



by John Sturrock

Iconic artwork lights up Brent Cross

In January, an impressive new artwork was unveiled at Brent Cross Town. The artwork is called 'Here we come, here we rise' was created by London-based artist Lakwena in collaboration with architects IF_DO.

Funded by central government, the artwork wraps around a new sustainable electrical substation which, in future, will power all of Brent Cross Town. All electricity supplies within the control of Brent Cross Town will be from 100% renewables sources.

Councillor Barry Rawlings, Leader of Barnet Council, said: "Not only will this iconic large-scale artwork put Brent Cross Town on the map, but it also showcases a talented London artist, and wraps an important piece of sustainable infrastructure that is key to meeting Brent Cross Town's aspirations to achieve net zero Carbon by 2030."



by John Sturrock

"I hope that it becomes a real icon and landmark...and gives people a sense of familiarity to know they are home."
Lakwena, Artist

Sustainability across Brent Cross Cricklewood

Sustainability is at the heart of the Brent Cross Cricklewood regeneration programme. From how the regeneration programme is designed, to construction of the buildings and materials used, we want to leave a sustainable legacy.

Brent Cross Town has pledged to be net zero carbon by 2030. One of the innovative ways Brent Cross Town will be working to achieve this target is through the creation of an on-site energy centre which will provide heating and hot water across the development. The energy centre will include one of the largest air source heat pump installations in Europe and will be powered using 100% renewable energy. For more information on other sustainability measures taken across the programme, visit transformingbx.co.uk/sustainability

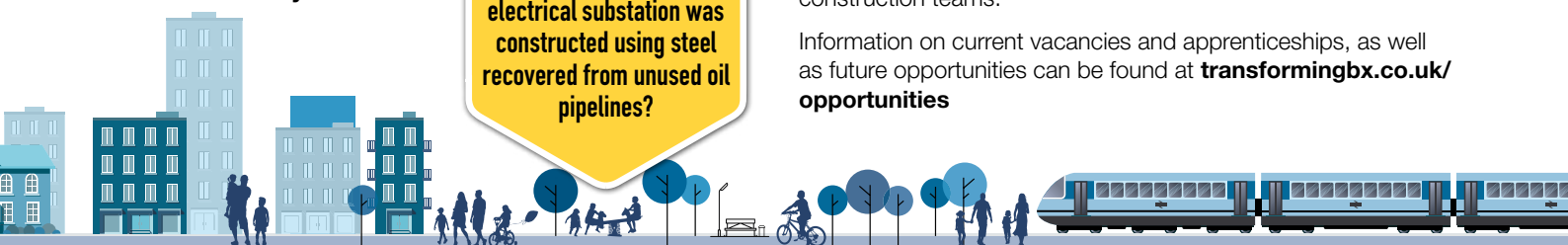
Did you know that the electrical substation was constructed using steel recovered from unused oil pipelines?

New jobs and future apprenticeships for local people

As a result of the regeneration programme, an additional 27,000 new jobs will be created in the area. In January, we announced 350 new construction jobs at Brent Cross Town alone.

Our commitment is to ensure at least 20% of our workforce across the regeneration programme are from Barnet, Brent and Camden. We are also focused on bringing more women into our construction teams.

Information on current vacancies and apprenticeships, as well as future opportunities can be found at transformingbx.co.uk/opportunities



Barnet wins £29.5m Levelling Up funding for redeveloping at-capacity Colindale Tube station

The Leader of Barnet Council, Cllr Barry Rawlings, welcomed the Government’s announcement to award £29.5m of Levelling Up funding for the redevelopment of Colindale Tube station.

Colindale is one of London’s most deprived areas and the redevelopment of the Tube station will be central to enabling the building of 11,400 quality new homes for locals. Since 2011, Colindale’s population has grown by 70%, making the area around the station the second-fastest growing ward in London after the Stratford Olympic Park in Newham.

In its current state, the 1960s built station will reach passenger capacity by 2026. The redevelopment will increase the number of people the station can cope with and create step-free access, which will speed up journey times.

The Colindale station bid has been led by the Greater London Authority and has received broad cross-party support. Cllr Barry Rawlings said it will benefit tens of thousands of people:

“The awarding of the £29.5m Levelling Up funding is good news for those living at the sharp end of the cost-of-living crisis.

“The Colindale Tube station redevelopment scheme is precisely the kind of project Levelling Up should support, supporting house building and spreading opportunity for so many living in one of the capital’s most deprived areas. Better transport links means better jobs and better pay.”

Barnet Council is now working with TfL to ensure that construction on the station improvements can begin as quickly as possible this year.



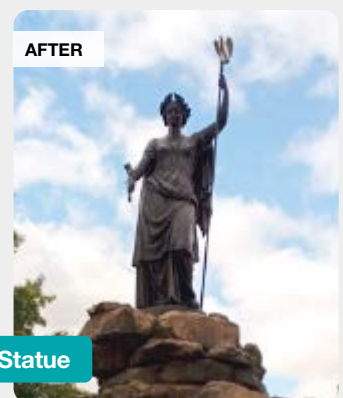
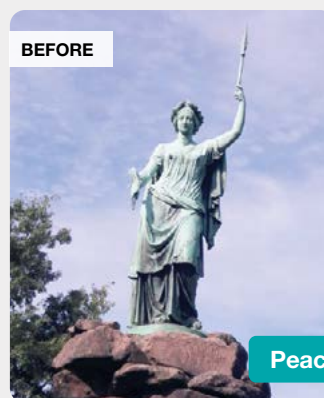
Peace Statue welcomed home

The Peace Statue at Friary Park was taken to be refurbished in March last year and returned to the park in late autumn.

The Grade II listed statue was created in circa 1861, modelled after Queen Victoria, and originally held a rod with a dove, mounted on a globe, to represent peace. However, in 1911, the statue was donated to Friary Park with a spear instead of the original dove, to represent ‘armed peace’.

The Worshipful Mayor of Barnet, Cllr Alison Moore, welcomed the centuries-old Peace statue back to its home in Friary Park. The Mayor read out a speech detailing the statue’s restoration works, which included repairing the joints and metal work, cleaning the naturally formed green corrosion, and re-patinated to a dark brown, over which a protective coat of shellac sealer and wax has been applied.

Work to restore the Memorial to Henrietta Barnett, founder of Hampstead Garden Suburb, was also completed last year.



Peace Statue



Henrietta Barnett

Places

Community safety update

More Community Safety Hubs

Barnet Council opened its first Community Safety Hubs last autumn as part of a range of new measures to help tackle crime and anti-social behaviour in the borough.

Barnet residents can now anonymously report or raise concerns about crime and anti-social behaviour in their area with dedicated council officers in their local Community Safety Hub.

There are now four Community Safety Hubs in Barnet located in Chipping Barnet, Edgware, North Finchley and West Hendon.



Ward Walks return

Also starting last autumn, Ward Walks see councillors, council officers and Police visit local neighbourhoods to investigate reported anti-social behaviour and specific community safety issues that you have raised. Ward Walks will visit every ward in the borough twice a year.

You can raise any local issues by contacting your local councillor directly, or emailing safeststreets@barnet.gov.uk. If you would like to report any behaviour that makes you or others feel unsafe in your local area, email safeststreets@barnet.gov.uk

Future council initiatives in support of community safety will include investment in upgrading the borough's current CCTV system and working with residents and the Police to create action plans that tackle local street-level issues in every neighbourhood.

For more information on Barnet's Community Safety Hubs, Ward Walks and the Community Safety Strategy 2022-27 visit: www.barnet.gov.uk/community-safety

Help CST prevent terrorism and hate crime

Community Security Trust (CST) is the charity that protects British Jews from terrorism and antisemitism.

Widely recognised by police and Government as a unique model of best practice, CST's expertise often guides legislation, contributes to arrests, and helps prevent terrorism.

To bring perpetrators to justice, CST relies on the public to report antisemitic incidents to police and CST. All reports are treated in confidence, victims are supported by CST staff, and the information helps inform security and policing responses.

If you are a victim or witness of antisemitism or see something suspicious, online or in-person, please contact CST. Let's work together to eradicate antisemitism and ensure our communities are safe for everyone.



www.barnet.gov.uk/community-safety

**SEE IT
REPORT IT
STOP IT**

CST
PROTECTING OUR JEWISH COMMUNITY

0800 032 3263
CST NATIONAL EMERGENCY NUMBER (24-hr)

Explore Barnet’s architectural gems and culture with the London Festival of Architecture

This June, Barnet will be one of the London Festival of Architecture (LFA) Destinations and a key area of exciting events and activities that will celebrate the local art and cultural assets that represent the diverse communities that make up our borough.



The new public space installation will be located on Station Road and the creative design focuses on re-introducing greening on the high street to make it a more vibrant and welcoming place to be.

A variety of local groups and organisations, architects and artists will deliver a wide range of events and community activities that recognise Barnet’s many riches. The programme is designed to offer events that can appeal to anyone - exhibitions and installations, walks and guided tours, family events, themed special events and much more.

Watch this space, the full list of events and activities will be announced soon at www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org

The LFA is a month-long celebration of architecture and city-making, taking place every June across London, with the mission to encourage discussions around new ideas and transforming spaces.

This year’s theme for the festival is ‘In Common’ and is especially relevant to the story of Barnet as a borough that has long been home to a hugely diverse population.

We are in the process of transforming our town centres into places that are designed around people’s needs, are sustainable, reflect the area’s heritage, and nurture local art and culture.

Throughout June, Barnet residents will have the chance to explore the many gems our town centres have to offer. The programme will kick off with the winner of Edgware’s design competition ‘More Edgware, Less Anywhere’.



Scan me to find out more



War memorials restored

The council has recently completed conservation works to four of the borough’s war memorials which includes East Barnet, Hendon, Mill Hill and the Totteridge memorial.

The council received advice and grant support from the War Memorials Trust to undertake a range of conservation works including light clean where appropriate, repairs to stone joints and rewaxing of metal work.

In the spring, the council further proposes will undertake works to two additional war memorials at Friern Barnet and New Barnet.



East Barnet War Memorial



Hendon War Memorial



Men from Mill Hill War Memorial



Totteridge War Memorial



JOIN BARNET ZERO.

We're working with residents, businesses and communities, to reach Net Zero carbon by 2042.



Climate change affects us all.

We are facing a climate emergency - from extreme weather events like more frequent heatwaves and flooding, to health implications like asthma and other respiratory related diseases, caused by air pollution.

We can all take steps to lower our carbon footprint. The BarNET ZERO webpages offer advice to help, including how to save energy and lower your bills at home, sustainable travel advice, getting involved in local volunteering and supporting local businesses with eco-friendly practices.

Sign-up to our BarNET ZERO e-bulletin and make your pledge to protect our planet for future generations.

engage.barnet.gov.uk/net-zero

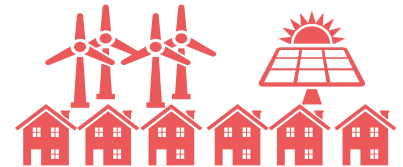
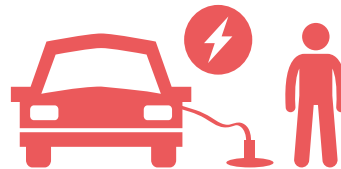


#BarNETZERO

BARNET ZERO

BARNET
LONDON BOROUGH

Working together on our journey to net zero carbon



- We've declared a climate emergency and pledged to be a **net zero council by 2030 and a net zero borough by 2042**.
- Our **Climate Change Citizens' Assembly** launched in January with **40** residents looking at how we can get to Net Zero.
- We're installing **510** more electric vehicle charging points across the borough.
- We joined the Mayor of London's **anti-idling campaign** to improve the air we breathe.
- As part of the council's Brent Cross Cricklewood regeneration scheme, the **£8bn** Brent Cross Town development will have an on-site energy centre and **the largest air source heat pump installation in Europe**. It will provide **low carbon heating** to the planned 6,700 new homes and all energy supplied will come from **100% renewable** sources.

In May 2022, Barnet declared a Climate and Biodiversity Emergency, setting the target of becoming a Net Zero council by 2030 and a place no later than 2042, pledging to go further and faster than before, putting sustainability at the heart of everything we do.

As one of the largest boroughs in London, Barnet has approximately 155,000 homes and almost 400,000 residents. Annually we produce 1.76 million tonnes of carbon emissions, that is the equivalent of filling the rugby pitch at StoneX Stadium around 15,000 times over.

Earlier this year we launched **BarNET ZERO**, our new borough-wide campaign, looking to bring communities, residents, and businesses with us on our journey to net zero.

We can't do this alone; everyone has a part to play.

Find out what we can all do, and what we're already doing across the borough from a selection of our community, residents, workforce and businesses below.



"As part of decarbonising council buildings, during phase one of the council's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, we installed heat pumps and other energy saving measures such as solar panels to 17 buildings.

"This includes the council's main office building in Colindale and five libraries.

"In total, this will reduce carbon emissions by 287 tonnes of carbon per year and generate a financial saving of c.£31k per year.

"These carbon savings are equivalent to the carbon emissions produced by 66 average homes' electricity and gas use per year."

Estates and Decarbonisation team, Barnet Council



"Each household in Barnet produces approximately a tonne of waste each year.

"We can all do more to reduce waste, make sustainable choices and minimise the amount of impact we have on the environment as a household.

"For example, avoiding purchasing over-packaged products and goods, putting meal plans in place to avoid food waste and repairing items to avoid them being thrown away and become waste."

Street Scene team, Barnet Council



"At Flower Collection, we are very aware of our responsibility in reducing our carbon footprint.

"We decided to make the switch to electric vans for our delivery service, not only because it's good for the environment, but also to reduce costs, especially because these days petrol and diesel prices have gone sky high..."

"With electric vehicles everyone's a winner!"

Soad, Owner of Flower Collection UK, Barnet

Planet



“It’s really great that Barnet Council has the net zero carbon goal of us all reducing our footprint as a borough by 2042 – and food is a great way that people can do that.

“About a quarter of our own personal carbon footprint comes from the food we eat, so if we can grow our own food locally, we’re making a huge difference.

“We’re blessed with lots of greenspaces in Barnet where small areas of land can be turned into food growing spaces...

“So, get up and growing with the food people!”

Wendy, Incredible Edible Community Group, Barnet



“Last summer was the hottest on record.

“So really the question is – not, can we afford in the cost of living crisis to tackle the climate change, but can we afford not to?”

“As a resident, there’s just little things that I try and do, both to save money for the future, but also to save our environment.

“In homes, making sure that there’s loft insulation, and that doors, windows and walls are insulated. And, when cooking to that all appliances are energy efficient.

“My other top tip is not to throw things away unnecessarily. It’s really good to have quality stuff that you love and cherish.

“The sooner we act now, economically, if you put those investments in early, we will have more savings in the long-run.”

Ben, Resident of Barnet



“People get really sick when they don’t breathe clean air, some people get lung cancer, asthma.

“We did a whole week about walking to school and how we don’t have to use our cars.”

“It’s important that we look after our environment because if we don’t look after it all the wildlife could die.”

Pupils of All Saints’ C of E Primary School, Barnet

“It’s really important that we look after our environment not just for ourselves, but for the future generations. It’s our duty to get both the children ready for that inheritance, but also to have something to live in which is going to allow them to prosper in the future.

“Barnet Council has committed to creating a net zero carbon borough by 2042, but they can’t do it all by themselves, they need to reach out to the people of Barnet, so we can create a greener future for everyone.”

Headteacher of All Saints’ C of E Primary School, Barnet

BARNET-ZERO-

Barnet’s Citizens’ Assembly on Climate Change and Biodiversity

In February, Barnet’s first-ever Citizens’ Assembly on climate change launched with 40 residents from across the borough, asking ‘What more can we do together to make Barnet more sustainable, now and in the future?’

A separate Young People’s Assembly on Climate Change (aged 11-17) is also in place, which hears from our young people, to inform our planning.

The two assemblies will generate ideas towards planning and delivering our ambition of being ones of London’s most sustainable boroughs.

We are positive that together, the council with the community can make a significant impact in achieving our net zero targets and creating a more sustainable future.

Find out more about Barnet’s Citizens’ and Youth Assembly at:
engage.barnet.gov.uk/barnets-citizen-assembly

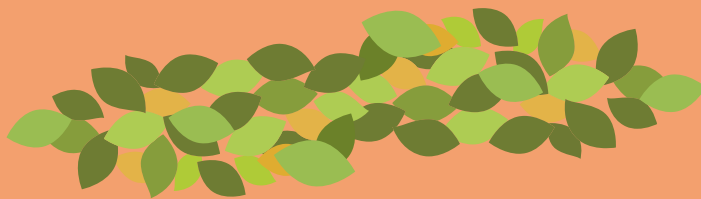


Sign up and pay for the 2023–2024 garden waste service

You can now sign up for the upcoming garden waste service year which begins from early May 2023.

The cost has been held at £70 for the fortnightly collection of one bin for the year, and £50 for each additional bin.

Sign up and pay as soon as possible to receive a full year's service.



For a quick and easy sign up, do it online at
www.barnet.gov.uk/gardenwaste

or call us on 020 8359 4600



SCAN ME

If you signed up to the collection service last year, then you will need to sign up again this year for your collections to continue from early May 2023.

Stickers for the new service year will be orange.

Please remove the old sticker as best as you can before applying your new sticker.

Remember to apply your sticker to the centre of the lid of your garden waste bin. Do this before the service starts so the collection crews know you have paid for the service.

Find out what can go in your garden waste bin at
www.barnet.gov.uk/gardenwaste

What you can put in your garden waste bin

Yes please ✓



Garden waste

- ✓ Grass cuttings
- ✓ Hedge trimmings
- ✓ Tree cuttings
- ✓ Small branches
- ✓ Leaves
- ✓ Weeds

Planet

Reuse Heroes! Give away your unwanted items

Are you thinking of having a clear out and have lots of things to get rid of? There are many options available to dispose of your unwanted items, but have you thought of giving them away instead?

Be a Reuse Hero: benefit someone else who is looking for an item and reduce your environmental impact.

The person receiving the item may collect it from you, saving a possible trip and the cost of paying for it to be collected.

Victoria from Golders Green

“I gave away football boots and a football kit. It felt great to see the smile on the child’s face when he received the

items. Without the football boots he would have played in his trainers that he wears to school so they would have been made muddy and unwearable the following day.

“I felt like I was doing the right thing and saved them the cost of buying the items.”

There are many websites and other options available to become a Reuse Hero, including coming along to one of our reuse events this summer. Find out more at the website below.

Drop off or pick up DIY materials for free

North London Waste Authority (NLWA) has launched a new trial service for Barnet residents to



deposit unwanted but reusable DIY materials.

Items like handfuls of bricks, left over slabs, odd tiles or that extra bit of timber from home improvement projects are now available for other local residents to take for free to help them

finish their projects, reduce waste and save money.

The trial service will run throughout the summer and will be reviewed in September.

Visit: www.barnet.gov.uk/reuse

Your free community skip service attracts over 80 households a day!

The Community Skip Service is available to each household in Barnet once every three months to help you dispose of large items more easily.

You can bring up to three large items after showing proof of your address.

Our campaign video was recently launched to further promote the service and inform residents that they can come along not only to dispose of items but to also keep in touch with their friends and neighbours.

If you’ve not seen it yet, view it on our Community Skips web page.

Giving your items a new life

We want as many of your items as possible to be reused or recycled. We are looking into options that will allow for items that are in good condition to have a new future once deposited.

If you are thinking about disposing of an item that might benefit someone else, why not donate it, give it to a friend or come along to one of our reuse events this summer.

Details of these options are available on our Reuse web page below.



Have you used your local community skip yet?

The service has been welcomed and well-received:

Information correct as of February 2023 and applicable for the first quarter

3,079 households have used the service

74 Skip locations have been delivered



Find out more at www.barnet.gov.uk/reuse
Find out more at www.barnet.gov.uk/communityskips

Engage Barnet

Have your say on housing-related strategies, policies, and proposals

Everyone deserves a place to live. A home is not only a source of shelter, but a safe place to live, relax, work, and develop roots within a community. It is a protected place for children to grow up, play, and learn.

The council is currently consulting on a range of strategies and proposals aimed at improving the availability, quality, and sustainability of housing in the borough.

We are keen to give everyone the opportunity to have their say, and we are seeking all residents' views on the following housing-related matters:

Draft Housing Strategy 2023–28

This strategy affects all residents of Barnet and includes a focus on preventing homelessness and supporting rough sleepers, delivering new affordable, accessible, and sustainable housing, ensuring safe and sustainable council housing, raising quality and standards in the private rented sector, and supporting living well by promoting healthy homes and wellbeing.

Draft Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2023–28

Focused on preventing homelessness, ensuring a sufficient supply of accommodation, and providing support for people who are or have been homeless.

Draft Tenancy Strategy

Sets out the tenancies that will be granted for council tenants and sets out the council's tenancy expectations of registered providers of social housing in the borough.

Draft Housing Allocation Scheme

Sets out how social housing will be prioritised and allocated to those who are in housing need in Barnet.

Proposals for a privately rented property licensing scheme 2024–29

Covering the introduction of selective licensing schemes for all privately rented properties in 10 wards within Barnet to ensure safer and better living conditions.



Have your say on Controlled Parking Zones

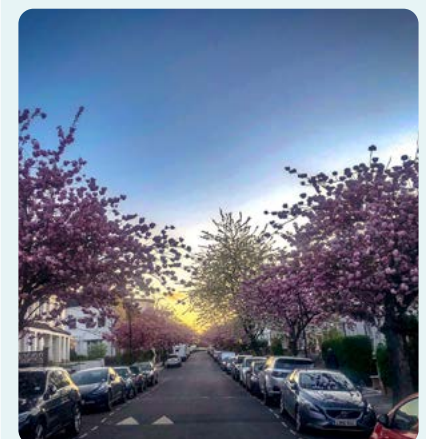
In Barnet, like many other local authorities, we have a system of parking bays and parking permits that prioritises parking for local residents, businesses and their visitors and customers. These systems are called **Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ)**.

We are currently consulting on CPZs in a number of locations across Barnet including:

- Brent Cross Cricklewood
- Burnt Oak North
- Oakleigh Road South
- West Hendon

We want to hear your views on our proposals, in particular we want to hear from residents, tenants, landlords, managing or letting agents, organisations, businesses and all other interested parties.

Find out more, view the proposals and give us your views at engage.barnet.gov.uk



Find out more and give us your views at engage.barnet.gov.uk

Engaged and Effective Council

How you can play your part in local democracy

As we set out in the last edition of *Barnet First*, the way that we deliver local democracy is changing – both for the council and for citizens of Barnet.

From next month's Annual Council Meeting, the council plans to move from a committee system of governance to an executive system.

This means that many decisions will be taken by a single party

Cabinet (or Executive) or individual Cabinet Members (who will have a portfolio of responsibilities) who will be held to account by cross-party overview and scrutiny committees.

We have reviewed our other committee arrangements as part of the project and there will be some changes to their terms of reference. Area Committee and Planning Committee arrangements will remain the same as now.

We have also listened to you – having carried out an extensive consultation over the winter and

heard your views on ways we can make it easier for everyone who has a stake in the borough to play a part in local decision making.

Check out the box below to see how what you said has changed the options available.

Keep on checking our Democracy pages on www.barnet.gov.uk and our social media channels for ways to engage with the council, or for more extensive information about these changes, over the coming months.

Get involved

Here are just some of the ways you can play your part in local democracy:



Public Questions

– we are making it easier for members of the public to ask questions at Full Council. This will extend existing rights to ask questions at committees. Responses will be provided verbally at meetings and there will be an opportunity to ask a supplementary question too.

Deputations

– at Full Council and at Cabinet and committees, deputations (signed by between five and 24 people) will now be allowed, in order to bring matters of importance to the local community to formal council discussion.



Petitions

– the thresholds are being lowered to ensure that citizens receive responses to matters of public interest. This means that petitions with more than 500 signatures will be reported to and debated by Cabinet or the relevant committee, and those with more than 3,000 signatures will be reported to and debated by Full Council.

Webcasting

– since the end of 2022, most council and committee meetings have been webcast live, meaning you can watch committee proceedings from the comfort of your own home. These are also recorded and can be watched back afterwards.



Engaged and Effective Council

Contact your councillors

Barnet Vale



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Brunswick Park



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Edgwarebury



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Golders Green



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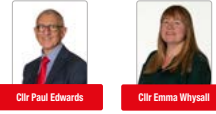
Hendon



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Woodhouse



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Full Council meetings

Hendon - Annual Council - **Tuesday 23 May 2023, 7pm**, at Hendon Town Hall, The Burroughs, London NW4 4BQ

For more information and for venue details, please visit: barnet.moderngov.co.uk

For details of surgeries, email: first.contact@barnet.gov.uk

Or write to us: **Members' Room, Hendon Town Hall, The Burroughs, Hendon, NW4 4BQ**



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