



People
Pages 6-15



Our places
Pages 16-23



The planet
Pages 24-28

barnetfirst

The council magazine bringing you news and community information

Summer edition July 2023

Keep cool and have fun this summer



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

www.barnet.gov.uk

BARNET
LONDON BOROUGH



Scan here
for more
information



**We're summer
ready!**



Our family
made sure
we're
protected
against
measles,
mumps
and
rubella!



Don't let a preventable illness spoil summer.
Check your child's Red Book or call your GP
to make sure they are up to date.

Developed by NHS North Central London Integrated Care Board

Message from the Leader of the Council

A Borough of Fun

We all want to enjoy our lives and have fun – whatever our age – and building Barnet’s brand as a fun destination is a personal mission of mine.

Having fun is good for connecting people, good for our mental health and wellbeing, and putting Barnet on the map as a go-to place with a real buzz helps boost businesses, our local economy and our town centres.

As a council, we’ve already been working on our ‘Borough of Fun’ strategy.

Celebrating our communities and creativity

We’ve made a splash with our new community events programme – celebrating Black History Month and International Women’s Day, Pride, South Asian Heritage Month, Ramadan and Eid Al-Fitr, and establishing a Winter Festival including Diwali, Chanukkah, Christmas and Lunar New Year to name a few.

In June, we supported a Summer Solstice Festival in West Hendon and were one of the London Festival of Architecture ‘Destinations’ showcasing our local creative talent with installations and events across the borough.

Every year there are also other established events funded and run by different community groups and partners including the Barnet Medieval Festival, East Finchley Festival, Barnet Multi-Faith Forum & Middlesex University Faith and Peace Walk and Mill Hill Music Festival amongst many, many others.

All these events bring people together around history, food, faith, music, culture and fun! They are what makes Barnet, quintessentially Barnet.

Looking to the future

Earlier this year we established a Culture Strategy Steering Group with members drawn from the arts and cultural sectors and the wider community to help develop a new Culture Strategy and inform a future bid for London Borough of Culture.

And across Barnet we’re investing to upgrade playgrounds, playing fields and parks.

We want to build our creative and sporting offer for the future, and to give focus to this I have just appointed a new Cabinet Member who will lead on Culture, Leisure, Arts & Sport.

Local democracy is fun too!

Believe me, local democracy is fun too!

With our new Cabinet and Scrutiny arrangements in place, there will be even more opportunities for you to engage with us on this agenda.

Residents can now quiz me at Full Council meetings during Public Question Time or bring a Deputation to Cabinet meetings on a particular local issue or get involved in scrutinising the work of the council.

We want you to be on this journey with us, so come along to one of our meetings and tell us what you think.

Enjoy the summer of fun!




Cllr Barry Rawlings,
Leader of Barnet Council



Contents

News	
EV charging points	page 4
New Mayor sworn in	page 5
People	
Keep cool this summer	page 6
Hear My Voice	page 11
Our Places	
Healthier High Streets	page 21
Brent Cross West station	page 22
The Planet	
Reduce, Reuse, Repair	page 24
BarNET ZERO	page 25

This magazine is printed on paper manufactured from well-managed and sustainable forestry under controlled, certified schemes. Promoting sustainable forest management. For more info: www.pefc.org

 When you have finished reading our magazine, please recycle.

Contact us

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

Barnet First is produced by the London Borough of Barnet’s Corporate Communications Team. To contact the editorial team about advertising, or placing inserts and contributions email: barnet.first@barnet.gov.uk

 [barnetcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/barnetcouncil)

 [@barnetcouncil](https://twitter.com/barnetcouncil)

 [barnetcouncil](https://www.instagram.com/barnetcouncil)

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 set to host 2,000 EV charge points by 2024

Barnet is set to become a frontrunner in London's electric vehicle (EV) revolution, after securing a substantial government grant of £5.19 million.

The funding, obtained from the Office for Zero Emissions Vehicles' On-Street Residential Charge Point Scheme (ORCS), will contribute 60% of the total project costs, enabling the installation of 1,293 EV charge points.

This ambitious initiative will add to the existing nearly 800 public charge points in Barnet, consolidating its position as a leading hub for electric vehicle infrastructure.

On completion of the project in 2024, Barnet will host over 2,000 public EV charge points, a figure surpassing those of any other London borough. The entire Greater London area currently supports

11,521 charge points, highlighting the substantial contribution Barnet is making towards the electrification of transport.

For comparison, Wales currently has 1,465 charge points, while Northern Ireland has 366, underscoring Barnet's commitment to sustainable mobility.

The comprehensive scheme includes the installation of 500 lamp column charge points and up to 793 non-lamp column residential charge points spread across 64 locations in the borough.

Removing anxiety from owning an EV

Cllr Alan Schneiderman, Cabinet Member for Environment & Climate Change, expressed his enthusiasm for the endeavour, stating: "Investing in 1,300 more EV charge points puts Barnet on track to become a net zero borough and make our air cleaner. By hosting one of

the capital's largest public charge points programme we're removing the anxiety that can come with owning an electrical vehicle, giving confidence to our drivers that they'll never be far from somewhere to plug in. Steering our way to a more sustainable transport infrastructure shows how we're caring for people, our places and the planet."

With the government grant secured and the procurement process underway, the future looks bright for Barnet's EV revolution. By investing in a charging infrastructure, Barnet is actively enabling the transition to electric vehicles and paving the way for a sustainable future. This is all a part of the council caring for people, our places and the planet and working towards becoming a net-zero council by 2030 and borough 2042,



Finchley Lido Leisure Centre to be redeveloped on existing site

Following a consultation process, the redevelopment of Finchley Lido Leisure Centre will take place on its current site.

While proposals included moving its location, the council listened to the opinions of residents and community groups who favoured keeping it at Great North Leisure Park (GNLP). Over 3,000 people took part in the consultation.

The existing Finchley Lido Leisure Centre will continue to operate until the new facility is completed.



Local park tennis courts in Barnet set for renovation

Barnet Council and the Lawn Tennis Association have announced a partnership to invest in and refurbish public park tennis courts across the borough. In total, 21 park tennis venues will be renovated, with investment of £1.2m helping ensure that quality facilities are available for the local community.

Park tennis courts are vital in providing opportunities for children and adults to get active, delivering significant physical and mental health and wellbeing benefits to players. Work is expected to be completed by September 2023.



Councillor Nagus Narenthira sworn in as 58th Mayor of Barnet



Councillor Nagus Narenthira has become the 58th Mayor of Barnet, after being officially sworn in during the Annual Council Meeting held on Tuesday 23 May at Hendon town Hall.

Councillor Narenthira takes over from the borough's previous Mayor, Councillor Alison Moore.

The Mayor's Escort will be her husband Mr Kan Narenthira. The Deputy Mayor will be Cllr Tony Vourou and his wife Caroline Vourou, the Deputy Mayoress.

The Worshipful the Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Nagus Narenthira, said: "I am deeply honoured to be appointed as Mayor of the London Borough of Barnet.

Having lived in this wonderful borough for many years, I am committed to serving its diverse communities and working towards their betterment. I look forward to collaborating with fellow councillors and community members to make Barnet an even more vibrant and inclusive place for all."

Councillor Narenthira has served on the Children, Education and Safeguarding Committee, Community Leadership and Libraries Committee and Planning Committee. She chaired the planning Committee A and West Area Committee last year. She is the chair of West Area Committee at present and enjoying the challenges these roles post to her.



Getting ready for winter – save energy and cut costs

It's never too early to start preparing for the colder months ahead. With the rising cost of living affecting many of us, it's important to find ways to stay warm while also saving energy and reducing bills.

Saving energy not only benefits your pocket, but also the planet.

Heating homes accounts for 40% of Barnet's carbon emissions. Here's some energy-saving advice to help towards reducing your bills, emissions and achieving net zero carbon as a borough by 2042:

1. Complete a free online assessment to understand the likely sources of heat loss in your home and receive recommendations for home improvements - Find ways to save energy in your home – GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
2. Receive free and impartial advice for how you can save energy around the home. There are a number of options available, including the GLA's new Energy Advice London service – Energy Advice London

3. Consider some practical tips to save energy every day – Quick tips to save energy at home – (Energy Saving Trust)
4. Explore home retrofit options, including insulation and glazing, as well as installing renewable energy like solar panels. These will reduce your energy bills, as well as create a healthier home to live in – A guide to retrofitting your home (trustmark.org.uk)
5. You can also save on the cost of retrofit through a number of new grants – Find energy grants for your home (Help to Heat) – GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

By preparing early and implementing these energy-saving measures, you can stay warm during the winter while saving money and contributing to our collective efforts to combat climate change.

Find out more at:
Cost of living support | Barnet Council



Have you tried Barnet's benefits calculator?

£18.7bn of benefits and support goes unclaimed in the UK every year

Launched as part of our approach to support residents with the rise in cost of living, Barnet's benefits calculator tool is now helping residents who are experiencing financial difficulties to find out what support is available to them. The new tool has had more than 5,000 visitors since its launch.



The quick and easy-to-use calculator includes information on benefits like Pension Credits and Personal Independence Payment as well as local financial support initiatives, like Council Tax Support and our Residents Support Fund.

Find out what financial support is available to help with the cost-of-living with the benefits calculator at benefits.inbest.ai/barnet

People

Keep cool and enjoy the summer!

While many of us are delighted to welcome the warmer summer days, hot weather can also make us unwell.

Follow these tips to stay safe and well in hot weather:

- Keep out of the sun at the hottest time of the day, between 11am and 3pm
- Keep your home cool by closing windows and curtains in rooms that face the sun
- Drink plenty of fluids and limit how much alcohol you drink
- If you plan to head out for exercise, to walk the dog or go to the park, try to go in the mornings or evenings, when it is cooler
- Cover up when you're outside – wear a sun hat, sunglasses, use at least factor 30 sunscreen and try to stick to the shade
- Check on each other to make sure family, friends and neighbours are keeping cool and well



Don't let sunburn ruin your summer.

Sunburn does not just happen on holiday. You can burn here in the UK, even when it's cloudy.

Protect yourself from burning and reduce the chances of developing skin cancer by using at least factor 30 sunscreen. But don't rely on sunscreen alone to protect you – wear light clothing to cover up and



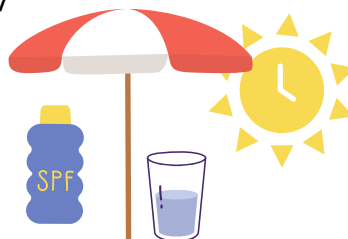
spend time in the shade when the sun is at its hottest.

Take extra care to protect babies and children.

Their skin is much more sensitive than adult skin, and damage caused by repeated exposure to sunlight could lead to skin cancer developing in later life.

Find a cool space.

If you are struggling to keep cool, visit the **Mayor of London's Cool Spaces** map to find a cool space near you. These spaces are free to use and open to anyone who needs to escape the summer heat <https://apps.london.gov.uk/cool-spaces/>



For more tips and support to help beat the heat, visit: nhs.uk/heatwave

Rough sleepers can be particularly vulnerable during hot weather.

If you see someone sleeping rough here are some simple things you can do:

- Smile. Stop and say hello and ask how the person is doing.
- Check if the person is happy to accept items such as water and sun cream to help keep them hydrated and protected from the sun. Umbrellas can also help people stay in the shade during particularly hot periods.
- Make an alert via **StreetLink.London**. The alert will be passed to a local outreach service who will visit the person and aim to connect them with support.
- If you think the person you are concerned about is in immediate danger or needs urgent care, please call 999.



Closing the health gap in Barnet

Barnet is a growing, diverse and thriving borough but we know that some areas and communities have more opportunities than others to enjoy long, healthy and happy lives. The council's **Ward Profile Tool** tool is available for all to access, to help us to understand the diversity in Barnet and how we can better meet the needs of residents and communities.

Take a look to understand more about where you live and how Barnet compares to other areas, both in London and nationally: open.barnet.gov.uk/

People

Help make Barnet a place where people can live well with dementia

Barnet is working towards becoming a Dementia Friendly borough and we are calling on everyone to learn, share and get involved in Barnet’s movement to become a Dementia Friendly community.

Take action on dementia:

- Learn the signs and symptoms and what you can do to help prevent dementia
- Share the **Dementia Friendly** scheme with your favourite local business to encourage them to become a **Dementia Friendly venue**. Find out more on page 21
- Become a **Barnet Dementia Champion** and take the free **Understanding Dementia** training: www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/dementia-club-uk-50784348303

Find out more about living well with dementia and get involved in Barnet’s journey to become a Dementia Friendly Community:

barnet.gov.uk/dementiasupport



“We are proud to be part of this movement to make Barnet more accessible to those impacted by dementia.” – Keith, Social Outreach Pastor, St Barnabas Church.



“My husband was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s in 2016 and Dementia Club UK has been a lifeline. I think it’s really important for Chris and myself to be with people who are in the same situation and have empathy for what we are going through at the moment.” – Gina, Barnet resident and carer for husband Chris.

Services and support for people living with dementia and their carers

Age UK Barnet offer a Dementia Adviser Service to provide support for the whole family, as well as activities including the Dementia Café, singing groups, befriending and day clubs for all people living with dementia who are over 55.

Visit www.age-uk/barnet/our-services or call **020 8203 5040**.

Barnet Carers offer support for carers of people living with dementia, including practical advice and mental health and wellbeing support.

Visit www.barnetcarers.org

Age UK Barnet and Barnet Carers jointly offer a support group for those caring for someone living with dementia.

Contact adultcarers@barnetcarers.org or 020 3995 1909 to find out more.

Social Care Direct provide information, advice and support for people living with dementia and their carers.

Visit www.barnet.gov.uk/adult-social-care email socialcaredirect@barnet.gov.uk or call 020 8359 5000.

Is your child protected against measles and other infectious diseases?

Children who are not vaccinated in line with the NHS routine vaccinations schedule are at risk of becoming unwell. Making sure your child is up to date with their vaccinations is the best way to protect them.



“Childhood immunisation is crucial to protect against many infectious diseases. Some diseases are starting to emerge again, like whooping cough (pertussis), mumps, measles and polio. Vaccination protects and prevents, and prevention is better than cure. I would encourage everyone to get protected, and make sure their children are protected.”

– Dr. Oge Ilozue, Barnet GP at Brunswick Park Medical Practice



“Before I spoke with a Health Ambassador, I was scared to get myself and my kids vaccinated, but she told me the benefits of getting vaccinated and encouraged me to get it done. So I got the vaccination I needed, and vaccinations for both of my kids too.” – Nasra, Barnet resident

Check your child’s vaccination status in their Red Book or by contacting their GP. Book an appointment with your child’s GP if they need to catch up. See the full NHS childhood immunisation schedule here: www.nhs.uk/vaccinations Read more about school-age vaccinations here: bit.ly/vaccination-tips-for-parents



People

Put your health and wellbeing first

The summer is a great time to relax and have fun, but some of us might find long summer days bring a lack of routine and become a little bit overwhelming. Luckily, there are lots of ways to stay healthy and well in Barnet.



Move more for a natural mood-booster

- Take a walk, bike ride or play an outdoor game with your kids
- Get off the bus one stop early and walk if you can
- Enjoy some light exercise to help lift your mood with a free audio-guided **Healthy Heritage Walk** www.barnet.gov.uk/healthwalks

Visit www.better.org.uk/fab-hub to sign up for a free Fit & Active Barnet card and access more free and discounted opportunities in Barnet.

Learn healthy cooking skills for free



Join **BreadnButter** for free community cooking sessions at North Road Community Centre, 230 Burnt Oak Broadway, HA8 2AP.

- Learn to cook simple, cost-effective and healthy meals
- Discover that healthy food can be affordable, delicious and nutritious
- Get to know your neighbours, and have fun!

Upcoming dates:

- 27 July – 31 August, Thursdays 10.30 – 12.30am
- 12 September – 17 October, Thursdays 10.30 – 12.30am

Contact **Natasha 07734 054 649** or natasha@breadnbutter.org.uk to book your place.

Go smoke free “I feel fantastic. I feel great. I feel really proud.”



Sui Lin, 52, had been smoking since she was 21. After being diagnosed with ovarian cancer, Sui Lin decided to give up smoking for good with the help of Barnet’s Stop Smoking Service.

“I could talk to my advisor about anything, not just smoking. It was like talking to a friend. I can taste better and I’ve even noticed financial improvements because I’m not spending money on cigarettes. If I could do it, anyone can. Put in your 100% and break the habit. You’ll be proud you’ve achieved your goal.”

If you’re thinking about stopping smoking, contact **Barnet’s Stop Smoking Service: www.barnet.gov.uk/stopsmoking**



Connect with others

If you’re feeling anxious or lonely, or have periods of low mood, connecting with others can be a great help.

The **Barnet Wellbeing Hub** can refer you to activities and support in your area, including befriending services and wellbeing cafes. **W: www.barnetwellbeing.org.uk**

Andy’s Man Club offers a space for men to connect with each other and speak openly about their mental health.

Every Monday at 7pm (except bank holidays) at The Meritage Centre, NW4 4JT. Free, for men 18+. W: www.andysmanclub.co.uk

Take time for yourself

Being in the moment and being aware of your thoughts, your feelings, your body and the world around you can improve your mental health. Visit www.good-thinking.uk to learn how mindfulness and other wellbeing activities can help.

Ask for help if you need it.

Visit www.barnet.gov.uk/stayconnected for support and advice, including crisis support, free online tools and face to face or telephone services.

Give your family a Healthy Start



If you’re pregnant or have a child under four, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk.

Visit: healthystart.nhs.uk

E: healthy.start@nhsbsa.nhs.uk

T: 0300 330 7010 (Mon-Fri, 8am-6pm. Charges apply).

People

Championing women and girls' football in Barnet

Women and girls are playing football on the international stage as England's Lionesses head to the 2023 Women's World Cup this month, and we're encouraging everyone in Barnet to champion women and girls' football back here at home as well.

As the Women's World Cup unfolds this summer, help us to shake off the negative stereotypes and perceptions around women and girls' football, and encourage as many women and girls as possible to get out there and enjoy a kick about!



Davina, ex-coach now plays walking football

"I started playing football when I was three years old. At 17 I joined Edgware Ladies and then I became a coach and referee for boys' football because there was no girls' football.

"I'm 61 now and I can no longer run, but a couple of years ago I found walking football for over 50s and it changed my life. It makes me feel fitter and it's really social too.

"It's walking not running, it's fun, it's local, you can't get hurt, it's fantastic. It will help your mental health and your overall fitness too.

Even if you if you've never played football before, get active and give it a go! It's great fun!"



Chloe, coach, manager and player

"When I started playing at eight years old, I joined the boys' football team as there wasn't a girls team. It was a difficult journey. The boys don't want to pass the ball to the girls in the playground, so I had to really prove myself.

"Some teams I played with didn't help my confidence and I lost my willingness to play. But I reinvented my love for the game through coaching.

"I lost my mum to Covid two years ago, and coaching women's games helped me through my grief. To see those women enjoying themselves and that I was enjoying myself, it really egged me on.

"Don't let people decide whether you can play, don't let barriers stop you – there will always be a way for you to play. The benefits you get – the physical fitness, the social aspect – make it really worth giving it. So get active, and give it a go!"



Somayeh, coach, manager and player

"I noticed there was a gap for girls' training in my local community, it was really male dominated. So I created a space for girls to have an opportunity to train and just play football.

"For me personally, football has been incredible. I love training and improving myself, and my confidence has grown. I love being part of something – having that sense of belonging with no judgement. It's really good for my mental health after a hard day at work, it's a great release for me.

"Football is just so powerful, it can change lives and communities. We've created so much social change. We have role models for the future generations. We've got girls growing up strong and confident. That's exactly what we want to do for our young women."



Get active – give football a go!

There are loads of opportunities for women and girls to give football a go, right here in Barnet. Visit the Fit and Active Barnet hub for a full list of clubs, teams and opportunities:

www.better.org.uk/fab-hub

People

POST-16 OPPORTUNITIES 4 U



Leaving school is a big step for young people. We are here to help and offer support as you navigate your future choices this summer. Barnet Education, Employment and Training Support team (BEETS) provides careers guidance, information for young people in Barnet after leaving year 11 until the age of 19 (or 25 for young people with EHCP).

The main post-16 options for young people are:

- Full time education at a school or college e.g. A-Levels or vocational qualification
- A new T-Level – new two-year Level 3 qualification – equivalent to three A-Levels and related to a specific job role
- An apprenticeship or traineeship, such as Routes into Construction
- Part-time education or training – this must be in addition to employment self-employment or volunteering for a minimum of 20 hours per week.

If you would like further advice, please contact the team and our employment and education advisers will get in touch 020 8359 2011

Worried about yourself or someone else?

Looking after your mental health and wellbeing is extremely important. There is help and support available to you. Explore the range of services on offer and remember: you're not alone.



BARNET CAMHS Crisis Line
If you require crisis mental health intervention and support.
Call: **0800 151 0023**



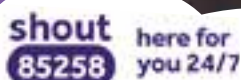
Barnet Integrated Clinical Services – BICS
If you're experiencing difficulties with your mental health, struggling with your emotions and social situations then call for a private chat.
Call: **0208 359 3130 9am – 5pm**



Papyrus Suicide Prevention
If you or anyone you know is struggling with thoughts of suicide or worried about someone who are not coping with life contact HOPELINEUK for free and confidential support and guidance.
Visit **Papyrus-uk.org**
Open 9am–12am (midnight) every day of the year. Helpline: **0800 068 4141**



Kooth.com
Anonymous and confidential online counselling and emotional wellbeing platform for children and young people aged 12-24. Visit: **kooth.com**



Shout
Shout offers confidential 24/7 crisis text support for times when immediate assistance is required.
Text **"SHOUT"** to **85258**



Samaritans
24/7 365 days a year - they are here to listen and provide support.
Call: **116 123**
or email: **jo@samaritans.org**



We've launched #HearMyVoice to combat violence against women and girls



In partnership with Middlesex University, the #HearMyVoice campaign addresses misogyny, domestic abuse, and violence against women and girls in Barnet. This is part of the wider Changing the Culture partnership, which has brought together various organisations and community groups to foster a safer and more inclusive environment.

The collaborative efforts have resulted in the following projects:

- Students working closely with Barnet's specialist support services to launch borough-wide campaigns during the 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence.
- A film created by students titled 'What happened to you last night?' aimed at combating needle and drink spiking.
- Working with Rise Mutual, an organisation focused on transformative perpetrator programmes, to produce campaign materials promoting awareness and prevention.
- Students developing engaging TikTok videos to raise awareness about the services provided by Solace Women's Aid.

Cllr Sara Conway, Cabinet Member for Community Safety & Resident Participation, said:

"We are committed to preventing and ending domestic abuse and violence against women and girls, and to improving the support and response for all victims and survivors in Barnet.

"The #HearMyVoice campaign highlights our commitment to putting the voices of women and girls at the heart of this approach, including by working with local partners and communities to produce resources together.

"We have zero tolerance for abuse and violence, perpetrators will be held to account and victims and survivors will be able to access the support and help they need."

Dr Helen Bendon, Interim Head of the Media Department at Middlesex University, said: "Through this partnership with community organisations and groups, students gain experience working on challenging briefs for real clients, and use their voices and creative skills to address important social justice issues. We are excited to continue this work as part of our commitment to 'Changing the Culture'."



The #HearMyVoice exhibition featured a powerful speech by a survivor of domestic abuse. The event commenced with performing arts students delivering emotionally compelling recitals of videos and posters from the Rise Mutual project. To view the campaigns and to find out more scan here <https://unihub.mdx.ac.uk/support/equality-diversity-inclusion/changing-the-culture/hearmyvoice>



If you seek help and support for domestic or sexual abuse please visit www.barnet.gov.uk/domesticabuse

People



Join us for a summer of reading and fun!

This year's Summer Reading Challenge is all about games and sports. Children will join our fictional team (and their animal mascots!) as they use their skills to weave their way through a summer obstacle course.

Are you ready? Set... read!

Children aged 4 - 12 can join the challenge at any Barnet library during staffed hours

- Collect your 'Ready, Set, Read' folder when you sign up
- Read or listen to six books, eBooks or eAudiobooks
- Collect rewards and stickers along the way
- Receive a certificate and medal for completing the challenge



The Summer Reading Challenge is back! The Reading Agency and Barnet Libraries, in collaboration with the Youth Sport Trust, are excited to introduce Ready, Set, Read! This year, we are celebrating sport, play, and physical activity through reading.

Ready, Set, Read! encourages children to discover the world of sports and play all around them. Join our superstar team and discover the excitement of reading. Forge new connections with others, follow in the steps of your favourite sporting heroes and rise to the challenge!

Children aged 4-12 can sign up at any Barnet library or online from **Saturday 8 July** and throughout the summer holidays. They will need to borrow and read six books from the library to participate in the challenge. Every book they read will take them to the next level on their way to becoming a reading champion!

Reading eBooks via the Libby app or listening to eAudiobooks on the BorrowBox app also counts towards the challenge.

During staffed hours at the library, children can collect stickers and rewards on their reading journey. When they reach the finish line, they will receive a special certificate and a winner's medal.

We have an exciting programme of events, kicking off with our 'Sign-Up Saturday' at the RAF Museum, Hendon. Highlights over the summer include a visit from children's award-winning author Tom Palmer, Packed Lunch Art Corporation, designing your own football kit, learn a martial art, and lots of fun craft activities in our libraries. The whistle is about to blow – ready, set, read!

For more information about the challenge and our other summer events, visit www.barnet.gov.uk/readyssetread

Caring for people, our places and the planet

ONE & ONLY

Ceremonies in Barnet



Barnet - a borough made for celebrations!

Looking for the perfect place to tie the knot or celebrate your civil partnership? Barnet is not just a great place to live and work, but a great borough to celebrate in too.

As part of the council’s exciting ‘Our Plan for Barnet’, we’re ensuring that Barnet is the ultimate choice for couples looking to celebrate their love. We’ve listened to your needs, conducted extensive user research and interviews, and are committed to delivering memorable experiences.

With its rich historical charm, Hendon Town Hall provides the perfect setting to exchange your vows and embark on your new journey together.

Imagine saying “I do” in the charming Heritage room at Hendon Town Hall. Recently refurbished, it boasts a modern, fresh new look that will add a touch of elegance to your special day. But that’s not all! For those planning larger ceremonies with up to 100 guests, our Committee Rooms

and Council Chamber within the Town Hall can be transformed into the ideal space to create lifelong memories. With its rich historical charm, the Town Hall provides the perfect setting to exchange your vows and embark on your new journey together.

You can also arrange for your marriage or civil partnership

ceremony to take place in a number of other venues within the borough such as hotels, banqueting suites, restaurants, and golf clubs that have been approved and licensed by the council.

Whether you prefer an intimate gathering or a grand affair, we have a range of venues and options to suit your preferences and budget.



Find out more about celebrating in Barnet, visit Ceremony venues | Barnet Council or call **020 8359 6400**.

Scan here for more information on venues in Barnet



Barnet Active Creative Engaging holidays

BACE

HOLIDAYS



Free* holiday club activities
are available for eligible children in Barnet
- from Reception to Year 11!

*This is a fully funded project from Department for Education



have fun



get active



learn new skills



Summer 2023

barnetyouth.uk/BACEHolidays



Caring for people, our places and the planet

24 July - 1 September 2023



People



Don't miss out on your place with

Lots of exciting events and activities are lined up for our BACE holidays summer sessions!

We know that school holidays can put extra pressure on families. Fully funded BACE holiday club places are available to children and young people in Barnet who are eligible for free school meals.

A huge range of fun and creative activities are on offer, from multi-sports and performing arts to chances to learn new skills! All young people attending receive a delicious, hot meal each day. As well as getting active, it's a great way for children to socialise during the summer and make new friends.

Sign up for our newsletter, and find out more about upcoming activities for young people and families at www.barnetyouth.uk/BACEHolidays

If you have any questions or issues with booking please email BACEHolidays@barnet.gov.uk



We also have our Positive Activities provision for all children and young people who live or are educated in Barnet.

Term time after school activities include arts and crafts, graffiti, circus skills, boxing sessions, media hub, gym fitness sessions and so much more.

Our holiday activities include skateboarding, fitness sessions, celebration of South Asian culture, percussion workshop, digital photography, basic life support first aid workshops, circus skills, parent and child yoga sessions, water sports and so much more.

Book your activities at www.barnetyouth.uk

PARTY ECO ACTIVITY BOOKS

PRINTED ON 100% RECYCLED PAPER

30% off

Code

BarnetFirst30

HelpfulKids.etsy.com

info@helpfulkids.co.uk

For ages:

4-8

Includes:

- Puzzles
- Mazes
- Eco facts
- Colouring
- Games

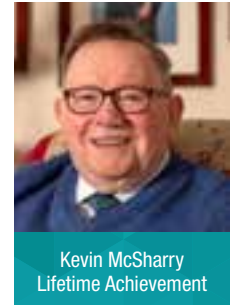
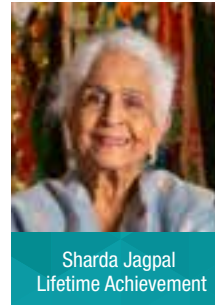
£2
Free delivery

TROPICAL JUNGLE

Each purchase supports Barnet-based not-for-profit community activities

People

Celebrating extraordinary contributions



The Barnet Civic Awards, held in April at Hendon Town Hall, brought together the Barnet community to honour remarkable individuals and organisations that make a significant impact through voluntary work.

The awards, divided into three categories, acknowledged the selfless dedication and outstanding contributions of volunteers in improving the quality of life in Barnet.

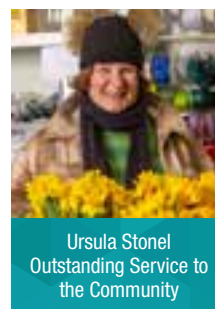
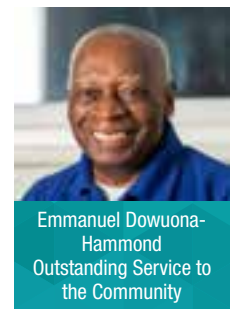
The ceremony began with Mr. Martin Russell, the Representative Deputy Lieutenant of Barnet, reading out the nominees' substantial voluntary contributions. Mr Russell noted how these exceptional individuals had gone above and beyond by fundraising, volunteering, and engaging in various forms of community service.

The atmosphere was filled with anticipation and appreciation as each award recipient was announced. The 'Barnet Lifetime Achievement Civic Award' recognised individuals who had demonstrated unwavering commitment to the community over an extended period.

The 'Barnet Award for Outstanding Service to the Community' honoured individuals and organisations that had gone the extra mile to serve the local community.

And the 'Barnet Young Citizen of the Year' celebrated the exceptional achievements of the borough's young volunteers.

Cllr Alison Moore took the opportunity to express her gratitude to all the volunteers who consistently give their time and effort, contributing to Barnet's progress and making it an even better place to live.



Cllr Alison Moore, the Worshipful Mayor of Barnet, hosted the event and presented the awards, said:

"In a borough where we are fortunate to have so many active and dedicated volunteers, it is a particular pleasure to be able to acknowledge and honour our award winners, many of whom have made a significant contribution over the years and also to celebrate the number of young people involved this year.

"These individuals have demonstrated exceptional commitment, dedication, and selflessness in their work, and their contributions have had a lasting impact on the community.

"However, I would also like to take the opportunity to thank all those who give up their time, week after week, to support others and make Barnet an even better place to live."



The Identity Project is coming to Barnet to launch Barnet's first-ever Pride in the Park event... and they need you!

To celebrate Barnet's first Pride in the Park on Sunday 20 August, award-winning photographer Chris Jepson is bringing The Identity Project to Barnet and all members of the LGBTQ+ community are invited to participate.



With the aim of reducing stereotypes by challenging assumptions of what this marginalised community looks like and give young queer people and those from marginalised backgrounds role models to look up to, The Identity Project is a portrait of the LGBTQ+ community which has already exhibited in Brighton, London and Paris, as well as online.

In collaboration with Middlesex University, Barnet Council, Inkluder CIC and Barnet Pride, the first photo shoot has already taken place and the project is now recruiting for future sessions to create a collection of stories and portraits of the LGBTQ+ community of Barnet.

Barnet Council Leader, Cllr Barry Rawlings, said:

“We're thrilled to be celebrating the LGBTQ+ community in Barnet with our first-ever Pride in the Park event and the wonderful photography exhibition led by Chris Jepson.

“We hope that by holding these events and exhibitions, it will help give visibility to LGBTQ+ people in the borough and help to promote Barnet's diverse and inclusive communities.”

To get involved, see the portraits and read some of the stories, go to <https://theidentityproject.co.uk/barnet>



Barnet Pride in the Park 20 August

Barnet Council is supporting the borough's first LGBTQ+ celebration - Pride in the Park.

The event at Victoria Park, Finchley, will be held on Sunday 20 August and is being coordinated by a partnership led by Barnet's LGBTQ+ community group Inkluder CiC.

Follow us @BarnetCouncil or visit engage.barnet.gov.uk for the latest details.

Places

Barnet made its mark at the London Festival of Architecture, celebrating diversity and culture across the borough

This summer, for the first time Barnet took part in the London Festival of Architecture (LFA) a month-long celebration of architecture and local heritage.

We are delighted to be one of the first outer London boroughs to participate in the LFA. Nineteen local organisations, community groups and individuals living and working across the borough, as well as the Barnet Libraries team, delivered an exciting programme of more than 70 events offering something for everyone to enjoy and bringing our communities together.

Attendees had the opportunity to learn more about the area's architecture and explore the emerging vibrant cultural scene that Barnet has to offer. Highlights included a behind-the-scenes tour of North Finchley artsdepot, an exhibition from Stonegrove Community Trust, workshops by local artists showcasing their creative talents, talks, walks and guided tours as well as new public space installations in Colindale and Edgware.

The festival theme of 'In Common' which celebrated London's rich diversity and citymaking, resonates a lot with the story of Barnet as a borough that has long been home to a hugely diverse population. Working collectively with the local communities who continue to define the borough, 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.



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO VISITED THE LONDON FESTIVAL OF ARCHITECTURE IN BARNET

Caring for people, our places and the planet

LFA LONDON FESTIVAL OF ARCHITECTURE

BARNET LONDON BOROUGH



DISCOVER BARNET'S HIDDEN GEMS

Explore some of the borough's fantastic shops and eateries this summer.

Visit the Discover Barnet website or scan the QR code to unearth the hidden treasures in your town centres and meet some of the friendly faces behind Barnet's many wonderful businesses.



<https://engage.barnet.gov.uk/discoverbarnet>



Making Barnet's high streets a healthier place to be.

Look out for the Healthier High Streets sticker in shop windows or visit the online map to find a participating business near you.



barnet.gov.uk/barnetstreets



Places

Find your nearest Community Safety Hub

Your Community Safety Hub

We have launched Community Safety Hubs as part of a pilot scheme. You can drop-in to anonymously report any behaviour that makes you or others feel unsafe.

This may include:

- Use of psychoactive substances (including Spice, nitrous oxide gas canisters, and other substances known for legal highs) in any public place
- Fly tipping, littering, flyposting and graffiti
- Youth-related anti-social behaviour
- Alcohol and drug related anti-social behaviour
- Neighbour disputes
- Dog fouling
- Aggressive begging



Chipping Barnet @ Chipping Barnet Library, 3 Stapylton Road, EN5 4QT. Wednesdays, 3pm to 6pm

Edgware @ The Meeting Room, Boardwalk Shopping Centre, Station Rd, Edgware, HA8 7BD. Tuesdays, 2pm to 5pm

North Finchley @ Artsdepot, 5 Nether Street, Tally Ho Corner, North Finchley, N12 0GA. Mondays, 3pm to 6pm

West Hendon @ The Community Hub, Gadwell House, Perryfield Way, Hendon, NW9 7DZ. Thursdays 2pm to 5pm

You can also raise issues about community safety within your area by emailing safeststreets@barnet.gov.uk, or by contacting your local councillor, local resident association or community group.

Community Safety Teams take to the streets

Ward Walks see our Community Safety Team and councillors visit every ward in the borough twice a year.

We will address community safety issues in each area such as dumped refuse, graffiti and anti-social behaviour.

If you would like to report an issue on your street that makes you or others feel unsafe, please email: safeststreets@barnet.gov.uk






Find out more about Community Safety in Barnet at barnet.gov.uk/community-safety



Making Barnet's high streets a healthier place to be



Have you spotted the Healthier High Streets sticker in windows on your local high street? Barnet's businesses are supporting wellbeing in their local community by taking part in the Healthier High Streets scheme – making it simple for residents to make healthier choices:

-  **Healthier Catering:** you'll be guaranteed a healthy and nutritious food offer here
-  **Refill Barnet:** pop in and fill up on free drinking water
-  **Dementia Friendly:** a place for people living with dementia to feel happy and safe
-  **Breastfeeding Welcome:** mums are invited to breastfeed in a welcoming and safe space
-  **Community Toilets:** clean, safe and accessible toilets for anyone to pop in and use for free

The Healthier High Streets scheme is making our high streets a place where we all feel comfortable and safe, and where we want to return to again and again.

Good for local people, good for local business!



"Phoenix Cinema are very proud to be a Dementia Friendly venue and I'd encourage others to sign up too. We're opening our doors to a whole new audience that otherwise wouldn't be able to make it to the cinema, and at a time when we usually wouldn't be busy." - Oliver Meek, Executive Director of Phoenix Cinema

Are you a Barnet high street business?

Join over 100 businesses in Barnet who are already part of Healthier High Streets.

Email healthierhighstreets@barnet.gov.uk to register your interest or visit www.barnet.gov.uk/barnetstreets

Look out for the Healthier High Streets sticker in shop windows or visit the online map to find a participating business near you:

www.barnet.gov.uk/barnetstreets



Middlesex University – working for and with the community

Middlesex is proud to be one of the most diverse universities in the UK and to be situated in Barnet. We make a difference to the lives of our students and to the lives of people locally. Middlesex is the largest employer in the area and trains nurses, midwives, teachers and social workers who often end up working in Barnet after their placements.

Our campus is not just for students and staff. Our Open House Community Space welcomes people who live, work or study in Barnet every Monday. In the colder months the Open House will serve as a warm, welcome space for the community.

The university is a place where communities from different religions can come together and find common ground and shared goals. Earlier this year we held our first interfaith celebration of Ramadan with the Big Iftar. It was an opportunity to bring the community together and was staged in partnership with Barnet Council and the Barnet Multi Faith Forum. Every January it is a privilege to host the Holocaust Memorial.

Our students work with local schools and businesses as part of their studies but also to give back to the community. The university is a hate crime reporting centre and recently took part in an initiative with Barnet Council where students and staff collaborated on the #HearMyVoice campaign. This project aimed to bring the community together to tackle misogyny, domestic abuse and violence against women.

Grassroots support

At the end of 2022 we opened our state-of-the-art West Stand at StoneX Stadium as part of a major partnership with Saracens rugby club and Barnet Council. This centre trains nurses and midwives for the future. Our academics at West Stand work with professional sports teams like the London City Lionesses to increase grassroots participation in sports such as girls' football. Our biodiverse, green campus has 110m2 of green walls and is home to 140,000 bees. Many of our facilities – including cafés, outdoor 3G pitches, multi activity courts and our gymnasium are available to our local community.

To find out more please look at our website: mdx.ac.uk

Places



BRENT CROSS WEST IS ON ITS WAY

In May, external signs were revealed on Brent Cross West station, bringing London’s newest mainline station a step closer to opening.



Brent Cross West eastern entrance internal sign



Councillors Alan Schneiderman, Houston, Clarke and Rawlings - Brent Cross West western entrance

The bold lettering above Brent Cross West’s eastern and western entrances marks an important step in the journey towards the project’s completion, with the Thameslink station set to open to the public in the autumn.

Part of the Midland Main Line and sitting between Cricklewood and Hendon, trains will connect passengers from central London to Brent Cross in as little as 12 minutes, with up to eight Thameslink services an hour at peak times.

Led by Barnet Council, built by VolkerFitzpatrick, and project managed by Mace with Network Rail a key programme partner, works have been continuing behind the scenes across the 7,000 square-metre site.

Opportunities for local people

A central ambition of the wider programme has been to offer new opportunities to via different employment and training routes. This has included young people joining through the Kickstart Scheme, apprenticeships and encouraging more women to get involved in construction. We’ve also involved local businesses, including Emma Blackman, who owned and ran a food van on Brent Terrace Industrial Estate for 17 years and now runs the staff canteen at the station. You can read more about Emma’s story at TransformingBX.co.uk/opportunities

Councillor Barry Rawlings, Leader of Barnet Council, said: “The new Brent Cross West station is fundamental to our plans to transform the local area, creating thousands of new jobs and much-needed new housing. It’s great to see the new signage signalling the progress of this ambitious project.”

Did you know that as part of the Brent Cross West works, over 100 Barnet residents have been employed on the project, and 20% of the workforce are from Barnet and neighbouring Brent and Camden boroughs.



Emma Blackman, Canteen Manager at Brent Cross West



The station is essential to the regeneration of the area. As part of the ambitious Brent Cross Cricklewood regeneration programme, it will be the gateway to north London’s new park town, Brent Cross Town, which will deliver 6,700 new homes and create 25,000 jobs.



Councillors Houston, Clarke, Schneiderman and Rawlings - Brent Cross West ticket gates



Barnet councillors, officers and partners - Brent Cross West eastern entrance



Brent Cross West eastern entrance internal sign

The station is also an integral part of Barnet’s commitment to tackling the climate emergency. This includes provisions for bike storage and good bus and cycle links to the surrounding area. A new transport interchange is also under construction with three bus routes proposed to stop directly outside the station.

Councillor Alan Schneiderman, Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate Change, and Cricklewood Ward Member, said: “We are on a journey with local people, communities and businesses to become a net zero borough. The new station at Brent Cross West is important in helping to achieve this by improving public transport options and offering an environmentally friendly way to connect across the borough and the capital.”

Mike Evans, Operations Director for VolkerFitzpatrick, also commented: “This is an exciting moment for us to step back and reflect on this substantial and structurally complex build. I want to thank everyone who has been involved with the building of this station – they’ve worked incredibly hard to bring it to this point. It’s a real achievement and has taken great planning, close collaboration, and robust processes to safely coordinate around the existing railway infrastructure.”

An official opening date for Brent Cross West station will be announced this summer!

Keep up to date on the project by following us on Twitter @transformingbx or visit our website transformingbx.co.uk



Planet



Reduce



Reuse



Repair



Take part in
#PlasticFreeJuly
– it's the perfect
time to reduce
using single-use
plastics!

When it comes to the waste we produce, we can all reduce our impact on the environment and our wallets by thinking: 'Reduce, Reuse, Repair' before putting items in our recycling and waste bins. Here are some tips to help you on your way.



Reduce

There are plenty of ways to help reduce the waste you produce in the first place; it may take a little bit of planning, but the results can be very rewarding. Some ideas include:



Refill – reduce your use of packaging and single-use plastics by getting a long-lasting water bottle or lunch container and taking a reusable shopping bag with you on your weekly shop.



Grow your own – by growing your own fruit and veg, or indoor plants like herbs, you can reduce your spend on food. Other ways to cut down your food bills are cooking the right amount, storing food correctly and freezing food.



Purchasing habits - plan meals in advance and make a list for your weekly shop. You can also choose to buy items loose or with less packaging.

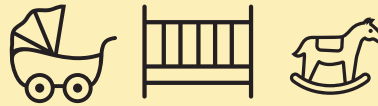


Reuse

By donating something you no longer need, taking an item off someone's hands or reusing something rather than getting rid of it, you are taking part in 'Reuse'! Some ideas include:



Reusable nappies – by using reusable nappies on your baby, you can save at least 4,000 disposable nappies, which is equal to 17 plastic bags a day! If you are a parent or a parent-to-be living in Barnet, you can apply for a free reusable nappy voucher worth £70. On average, using reusable nappies will save you £195 per year.



Give away unwanted things in good condition – you can help someone in need by giving away items such as clothes, furniture, or toys. Drop them off at your local charity shop, ask friends and family members if they need anything you are disposing of, or you can list them on various online groups and websites. Some furniture may be collected by local charities and organisations.



A new life – could something you're about to throw out or put in your recycling bin be given a new purpose? You could use an empty glass jar for storing rice or nuts, use parts of old greeting cards as present tags or keep, clean and reuse take away food containers to freeze leftovers.



Repair

You might be able to save a broken item by repairing it. By repairing an item you could save money and reduce your impact on the environment.



Clothing – by sewing or using glue, you can make torn or broken items as good as new. Mending might not be as hard as you think: a good way to start is by looking at how-to guides with many helpful tips and videos available online. Make sure you have the equipment you need and give it a go!



Electrical items - If you have an electrical item that needs repairing, you can use North London Waste Authority's online electrical Repair Directory to find a north London repair business near you. Find other types of repair services by searching online or joining a neighbourhood groups and asking for recommendations.

You can find out more about the tips above by visiting: www.barnet.gov.uk/reducereuse

RESIDENTS’ RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE & BIODIVERSITY IN BARNET



This May, Barnet’s Young People’s and Citizens’ Assemblies on Climate Change & Biodiversity joined forces to present their recommendations for making Barnet more sustainable. The final session took place at Middlesex University Campus, where the participants shared their valuable insights and ideas.

Barnet’s first-ever Citizens’ Assembly, which launched in February 2023, comprised 40 residents from various areas of Barnet, who came together over six sessions to discuss the question: “To make Barnet more sustainable, now and in the future, we must...”.

They focused on actions to reduce carbon emissions at individual, community, and business levels. They also explored the role of the council and its partners in acting as connectors, enablers, and influencers. Live digital illustrator and resident of Barnet, Beatrice Baumgartner-Cohen, demonstrated the Citizens’ Assembly process in a series of images, capturing the key stages.



Planet

Barnet Citizens' Assembly participants and local residents Leila and Niiashie shared their experiences...



Leila

“Being a young adult in Barnet, [achieving net zero] holds immense significance for me as it will profoundly shape my future.

“A highlight of mine was connecting with several local community groups that are actively engaged in promoting sustainability within Barnet. These interactions provided valuable insights into their needs and allowed us to generate targeted recommendations to support their initiatives...

“The collaborative [voting] process ensured that the most impactful recommendations were given due consideration. I have found the assembly experience immensely rewarding and I am eager to witness how Barnet incorporates our recommendations in their future plans.”



Niiashie

“I joined the Citizens' Assembly firstly out of curiosity – as a Barnet resident, I wanted to see the scope of the council's control and what required behavioural changes from Barnet's residents.

“Secondly, as a father of young children, it's an intergenerational problem that we should participate in, for the ultimate benefit of future generations.

“And thirdly, as a business owner to understand government interventions to do with the local economy, including extreme weather events and climate-related supply chain disruptions.

“It was a great opportunity to meet a cross section of Barnet residents, that I would otherwise ordinarily not get the opportunity to interact with and learn from.”

In parallel, the Young People's Assembly, comprising 20 individuals aged 11 to 17, undertook their own exploration of Barnet's approach to the climate emergency. Their actions and ideas were brought to life in a series called “Postcards of the Future.”



During final weekend, ideas and actions that had been developed in depth were presented by the participants and voted on, culminating in a set of 20 recommendations categorised under five themes.

TO MAKE BARNET MORE SUSTAINABLE, NOW AND IN THE FUTURE, WE NEED TO...

Waste and sustainable consumption

1. Encourage and educate Barnet residents on how to reduce their amount of food waste.
2. Improve waste management through easier recycling and by addressing fly tipping.

Learning, communication and partnerships

3. Educate children and young people on sustainability and climate change through the school curriculum and after-school activities.
4. Integrate courses on climate change, sustainability and green skills across schools, businesses and apprenticeships. This should be available through online courses, local career speakers at schools and work experience opportunities that enable people to develop practical skills such as horticulture.
5. Target education and communication using a wide range of channels that are accessible and appropriate to all diverse communities.
6. Create different campaigns and raise awareness across social media with concise and direct videos that are comedic and relatable created by everyone, including influencers and policymakers.

Nature and biodiversity

7. Identify unused spaces and infrastructure across the borough (e.g. fields, old railway tracks, green walkways) to develop biodiverse green spaces and cycling paths for partnership between council and local community volunteers.
8. Commit to planting more trees in existing and new green spaces to promote biodiversity and wildlife.
9. Encourage more school gardens, so that everyone has access to green spaces, and use the school gardens to grow food to use in school meals.
10. Encourage and support local farming for fruits which will help create support for veganism and reduce carbon emissions from shipping.
11. Use parks to promote local businesses through weekly markets and fairs.

Travel

12. Have an integrated sustainable transport plan for the borough.
13. Develop a strategy to make roads safe for active travel, with an emphasis on cycle lanes.
14. Move towards more accessible (must be accessible to all people including disabled people), frequent and cheaper electric bus routes for people to use across Barnet.
15. Encourage investment in green, public transport to improve the environment, safety and wellbeing.
16. Provide schools with subsidised bikes for students to use for journeys in and around schools.
17. Properly invest in electric vehicles, encourage people to see the benefits and help with payment plans.

Housing, buildings and renewable energy

18. Incorporate green and sustainable design processes in all new builds / infrastructure.
19. Retrofit council properties and provide grants / subsidies for people in private housing to make buildings net zero.
20. Make housing more sustainable by installing solar panels and providing subsidies to improve appliances.

Councillor Alan Schneiderman, Chair of Barnet's Environment and Climate Change Committee, and part of the panel of observers of the recommendations, said:

“We’ve committed Barnet to becoming a net zero borough by 2042. Our Citizens’ Assemblies have been instrumental in helping us find ways in achieving that. Through engaging in difficult choices, they’ve provided new innovative thinking that will help guide our path to a greener future.”

The recommendations report went to Barnet Council's Cabinet in June and will be used to inform Barnet's Sustainability Action Plan. We will be working with partners to help deliver a borough-wide approach.

ENTER OUR PRIZE DRAW TO WIN AMAZING GREEN GIVEAWAYS!

Your chance to win amazing green giveaways, from reusable BarNET ZERO water bottles to reduce our plastic, to 'grow your own herbs' and slow cookers to save you money on your meals!

To enter, and discover more about the recommendations, along with the actions you can take to help us reach net zero carbon by 2042 visit:
engage.barnet.gov.uk/barnets-recommendations



*Terms and conditions apply.

Engaged and Effective Council

Tackling fraud in Barnet

The borough's Corporate Anti-Fraud Team (CAFT) are a unit of specially trained officers tasked with investigating fraud and economic crime committed against the council. This includes fraud involving social housing, parking, council tax, insider threats and other risks affecting the authority. CAFT's officers are highly trained and accredited by external agencies including the National Crime Agency.

Here are some examples of recent cases investigated by CAFT and prosecuted by the council.

Tenancy Fraud

A referral was received stating that a Barnet Homes tenant had been living permanently at an address in NW4, which was a different location to their social housing property.

Evidence obtained from Land Registry showed that the address in NW4 was purchased on 1 February 2011 for £460,000 by the tenant, eight weeks prior to signing a tenancy agreement at the social housing property.

Further evidence from financial institutions, a sub-tenant and the Police suggested the defendant had been sub-letting their social housing property for a substantial period. Their bank accounts statements showed they received payments of rent from a sub-tenant from May 2018 to January 2020. They were interviewed under caution and denied any offences of sub-letting despite the evidence.

The case prosecuted and went to court; at the first hearing in 2022 the defendant pleaded not guilty. On 16 February 2023 at Harrow Crown Court they changed their plea and fully admitted the offence of subletting, they were sentenced to seven months' imprisonment.

Parking Fraud

Numerous appeals were made between 2019 and 2022 in relation to Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) that had been placed on a vehicle. The appeals would each state that a delivery was being made at an address in the road where the PCN was issued and delivery notes were submitted.

Investigations confirmed that none of the alleged deliveries had taken place and that the supporting documentation had been produced by the appellant for the purpose of 'getting off' the penalty charge.

During an interview by CAFT the vehicle keeper admitted various offences and subsequently pleaded guilty to fraud false representations and with making articles for use in fraud contrary the Fraud Act. They were sentenced to pay £1,200 in compensation, £500 towards costs and a fine to the sum of £448.



Blue Badge Fraud

A vehicle displaying a Blue Badge was investigated by CAFT officers. The badge had been reported stolen by the badge's registered owner. As no driver was identified, CAFT officers traced the vehicle's keeper.

The keeper was interviewed under caution, during which they stated they were given the badge to use by an acquaintance. They took the opportunity to use it outside their home and to park near public transport links. The keeper was prosecuted for the offence of misusing a disabled badge contrary to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. They pleaded guilty and were sentenced to a fine of £880, ordered to pay costs of £930.13 and a victim surcharge of £352.



Engaged and Effective Council

Engage Barnet

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

Give your views on proposals for a privately rented property licensing scheme 2024 – 2029



In Barnet, most houses in multiple occupation, for example, bedsits and shared houses, require a licence. Property licensing is a way we can ensure safer and better conditions in private rented properties with a particular focus on areas where poor quality private accommodation is more prevalent. This will enable all our residents to live in a healthy, safe, and thriving borough.

By the end of this year all private rented accommodation in Burnt Oak, Colindale North and Colindale South will be required to be licensed. Following changes in ward boundaries, we are now consulting on new property licensing proposals for all privately rented properties in 10 more wards: Childs Hill, Cricklewood, Edgware, Edgwarebury, Finchley Church End, Golders Green, Hendon, Mill Hill, West Finchley and West Hendon.

All tenants, residents, landlords and agents are strongly encouraged to take part in this consultation.

Making School Streets safer – have your say today!



We are committed to creating vibrant streets that prioritise your safety, promote active transportation, empower our children to travel to school healthily, and provide a flourishing environment for local businesses. Moreover, we aspire to ensure cleaner air for all. A critical area we're focusing on to achieve these goals is the roads surrounding our schools.

A School Street is a road outside a school with a temporary restriction on motorised traffic at school drop-off and pick-up times. The restriction applies to school traffic and through traffic, however residents and businesses with properties within these School Streets will still always retain access to their properties. The aim of the schemes is to create a safer environment for pupils to walk and cycle to school and to deal with the high traffic volumes around schools at certain times of the day.

Since the initial schemes were implemented last year, we have now identified further schools to be part of our School Streets schemes: Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School and St James' Catholic High School, Childs Hill Primary School, Goldbeaters Primary School and The

Annunciation Catholic Infant School, Holly Park Primary School, Moss Hall School, St John's C of E Primary School and Friern Barnet School.

We are also currently establishing a School Streets Permit and Exemption Policy which will be considered by Cabinet in July and will give more information on how a school street will work.

To ensure that your voice is heard, we opened this engagement on 23 June and have written to properties within the affected areas, inviting them to take part. We want to give residents, as well as people who visit or work in the borough, an opportunity to have their say on our proposals.

Join us on this transformative journey towards becoming a net zero council by 2030 and a net zero borough by 2042.

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

Engaged and Effective Council

Make sure you are registered to vote

The Annual Electoral Registration Canvass for 2023 has started!

What is the Annual Canvass?

Each year, Barnet's Electoral Services Team must send a Household Enquiry Form (HEF) to every household, to check that the details held by Barnet's Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) are correct.

The aim of this form is to make sure the electoral register is completely up to date. This protects voters' rights and means that the ERO can invite any eligible residents to register to vote if they are not already registered.

Please note that these letters are genuine and sent out from Electoral Services by law.

How will I be contacted?

Over the next couple of months, the HEF letter will be sent to your home (and will be addressed to 'The Resident'). Please check the information and follow the directions in the letter to see if you need to change or confirm the details for your property.

For more information about the Annual Canvass, please visit www.barnet.gov.uk/annual-canvass

If you have just moved in, the quickest and easiest way to register to vote is online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

Voter ID is now required to vote in elections

Voters in England are now required to show photo identification when casting their ballots at polling stations during certain elections.

Barnet residents should note that no elections are currently scheduled in their area until 2 May 2024.

The Electoral Commission has provided further information and guidance on its website for voters who may have questions or concerns. Find out more at electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID

The
Electoral
Commission

Find out more at

electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID

No ID? You can apply for free voter ID

You now need
photo ID to vote at
a polling station

Engaged and Effective Council

Contact your councillors

Barnet Vale



Cllr Richard Barnes Cllr Marianne Haylett Cllr David Longstaff

Cllr.R.Barnes@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.M.Haylett@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.D.Longstaff@barnet.gov.uk

Brunswick Park



Cllr Paul Lemon Cllr Giulia Monasterio Cllr Tony Yourou

Cllr.P.Lemon@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.G.Monasterio@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.T.Yourou@barnet.gov.uk

Burnt Oak



Cllr Sara Conway Cllr Kamal Gurung Cllr Ammar Naqvi

Cllr.S.Conway@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.K.Gurung@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.A.Naqvi@Barnet.gov.uk

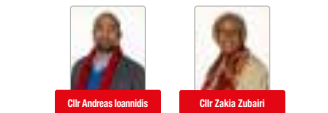
Childs Hill



Cllr Giulia Innocenti Cllr Matthew Perlbeg Cllr Nigel Young

Cllr.G.Innocenti@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.M.Perlbeg@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.N.Young@barnet.gov.uk

Colindale North



Cllr Andreas Ioannidis Cllr Zakia Zubairi

Cllr.A.ioannidis@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.Z.Zubairi@barnet.gov.uk

Colindale South



Cllr Humayune Khalick Cllr Nagus Narenthira Cllr Gill Sargeant

Cllr.H.Khalick@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.N.Narenthira@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.G.Sargeant@barnet.gov.uk

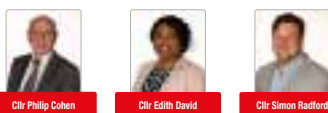
Cricklewood



Cllr Anne Clarke Cllr Alan Schneiderman

Cllr.A.Clarke@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.A.Schneiderman@barnet.gov.uk

East Barnet



Cllr Philip Cohen Cllr Edith David Cllr Simon Radford

Cllr.P.Cohen@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.E.David@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.S.Radford@barnet.gov.uk

East Finchley



Cllr Claire Farrier Cllr Arjun Mitra Cllr Alison Moore

Cllr.C.Farrier@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.A.Mitra@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.A.Moore@barnet.gov.uk

Edgware



Cllr Shury Gordon Cllr Nick Mearing-Smith Cllr Lucy Emma Wakeley

Cllr.S.Gordon@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.N.Mearing-Smith@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.L.Wakeley@barnet.gov.uk

Edgwarebury



Cllr Lachhya Bahadur Gurung Cllr Sarah Wardle

Cllr.L.Gurung@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.S.Wardle@barnet.gov.uk

Finchley Church End



Cllr Eva Greenspan Cllr Jennifer Grocock Cllr Daniel Thomas

Cllr.E.Greenspan@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.J.Grocock@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.D.Thomas@barnet.gov.uk

Friern Barnet



Cllr Pauline Coakley Webb Cllr Linda Lusingu Cllr Barry Rawlings

Cllr.P.Coakleywebb@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.L.Lusingu@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.B.Rawlings@barnet.gov.uk

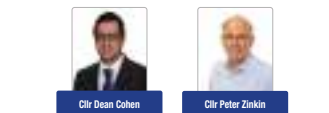
Garden Suburb



Cllr Rohit Grover Cllr Michael Mire

Cllr.R.Grover@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.M.Mire@barnet.gov.uk

Golders Green



Cllr Dean Cohen Cllr Peter Zinkin

Cllr.D.Cohen@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.P.Zinkin@barnet.gov.uk

Hendon



Cllr Joshua Conway Cllr Alex Prager Cllr Mark Shooter

Cllr.J.Conway@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.A.Prager@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.M.Shooter@barnet.gov.uk

High Barnet



Cllr Paul Edwards Cllr Emma Whysall

Cllr.P.Edwards@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.E.Whysall@barnet.gov.uk

Mill Hill



Cllr Val Duschinsky Cllr Lathie Jajeh Cllr Elliot Simberg

Cllr.V.Duschinsky@Barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.L.Jajeh@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.E.Simberg@barnet.gov.uk

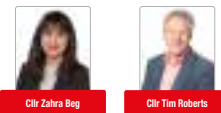
Totteridge Woodside



Cllr Richard Cornelius Cllr Alison Cornelius Cllr Caroline Stock

Cllr.A.Cornelius@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.R.Cornelius@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.C.Stock@barnet.gov.uk

Underhill



Cllr Zahra Beg Cllr Tim Roberts

Cllr.Z.Beg@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.T.Roberts@barnet.gov.uk

West Finchley



Cllr Ross Houston Cllr Kath McGuirk Cllr Danny Rich

Cllr.R.Houston@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.K.Mcguirk@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.D.Rich@barnet.gov.uk

West Hendon



Cllr Ernest Ambe Cllr Andrea Bilbow OBE Cllr Rishikesh Chakraborty

Cllr.E.Ambe@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.A.Bilbow@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.R.Chakraborty@barnet.gov.uk

Whetstone



Cllr Elia Rose Cllr Liron Velleman

Cllr.E.Rose@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.L.Velleman@barnet.gov.uk

Woodhouse



Cllr Geoff Cooke Cllr Anne Hutton

Cllr.G.Cooke@barnet.gov.uk
Cllr.A.Hutton@barnet.gov.uk

Full Council meetings

Tuesday 17 October 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

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.



To subscribe, just scan the QR code or sign up via My Account.

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)



Barnet First eNewsletter - in your inbox, every Wednesday

Caring for people, our places and the planet

www.barnet.gov.uk

BARNET
LONDON BOROUGH