
Local Development Framework

Core Strategy Summary

May 2011

Local Development Framework – Core Strategy Summary Document – May 2011

What are the LDF and the Core Strategy ?

The Local Development Framework (LDF) is one of the most important statutory plans that must be produced for Barnet.

The Core Strategy is the key document and sits at the heart of the LDF. It sets out where, when and how change will take place, providing a shared vision of what Barnet will be like as a place in 2026. All other LDF planning documents need to accord with its strategic direction and key planning policies.

The **Pre-Submission Amendments** provide the final opportunity for public consultation on changes to the Core Strategy.

What has already happened ?

The **Pre Submission Amendments** represent the final stage of production of Barnet's Core Strategy.

Engagement on the first stage of the Core Strategy - Issues and Options in Summer 2008 generated 23,000 comments from 462 respondents on the 80 options that were proposed. These comments helped to inform the development of the next stage of the Core Strategy known as Direction of Travel.

Engagement on the mid point of Core Strategy production – the Direction of Travel which ran from November 2009 until January 2010 generated over 2,000 comments from 334 respondents. These comments helped to inform the development of this stage of the Core Strategy known as Publication or Pre-Submission.

Engagement on the final stage of the Core Strategy document ran from September until November 2010 generated 250 comments from 44 respondents. On the basis of these comments and general updating we have produced **Pre-Submission Amendments to the Core Strategy**. Nearly 370 changes to the Core Strategy are now subject to a final period of consultation.

What happens next ?

This is the final opportunity for you to have your say in developing Barnet's Core Strategy. Following consultation this document will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in July 2011. The Core Strategy together with the Development Management Policies will then be subject to an Examination in Public in Autumn 2011. The **Pre-Submission Amendments** provides the opportunity for you to make comments on the **changes** and back these up as well as indicate whether you would like to appear at the Examination in Public. It also provides the opportunity for previous objections to the Core Strategy to be **withdrawn**.

The Core Strategy has undergone extensive engagement and been developed on an evidence base which supports our approach to managing the change that Barnet faces over the next 15 years. At this final public consultation stage you now have the chance to tell us if our Strategy is the right approach ?

If you are not content with the changes to the Core Strategy you need to set out the reasons why on specific grounds and then propose changes to the Core Strategy that will overcome these objections. The specific grounds for making representations and appearing at the Examination in Public are that the Core Strategy is not **justified, effective and consistent with national policy**

1. **Justified** means that the document must be:
 - founded on a robust and credible evidence base
 - the most appropriate strategy when considered against the reasonable

2. **Effective** means that the document must be
 - deliverable
 - flexible
 - able to be monitored

3. **Consistent with National Planning Policy as set out in a suite of Planning Policy Statements and Planning Policy Guidance Notes**

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/planningpolicy/>

The Evidence Base for the Local Development Framework

The policy framework in the Core Strategy is underpinned by an evidence base which includes published material such as ;

- Barnet's Characterisation Study
- Barnet's Infrastructure Delivery Plan
- Employment Land Review,
- Open Spaces, Sports and Recreational Facilities Assessment,
- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment,
- Town Centre Floorspace Needs Assessment
- North London Strategic Market Housing Assessment
- Barnet Transport Assessment

The Core Strategy Policy Framework

The Core Strategy document sets out a policy framework of 15 policies. ***Please read the full Core Strategy for the full policy wording.*** In summary these are:

- **Barnet's Spatial Strategy - Protection, Enhancement and Growth** - sets out the vision of how Barnet will change and where that change will happen

- **Brent Cross – Cricklewood** – ensures that existing policy framework as set out in 'saved' policies of the UDP is retained as basis for determining future planning applications

- **Distribution of Growth in Meeting Housing Aspirations** - sets out the most sustainable locations for housing growth in the west of the borough together with the priority housing estates and town centres. It also sets out how much these areas will contribute to an estimated supply of 28,000 new units between 2011/12 and 2025/26.

- **Providing Quality Homes and Housing Choice in Barnet** - sets out need to provide wider choice in accessing housing in terms of tenures, types and size. It highlights that an appropriate level and mix of affordable housing will be determined following a viability assessment.

- **Protecting and Enhancing Barnet's Character to Create High Quality Places** - sets out our priorities for high quality design and the importance of protecting and enhancing Barnet's historical heritage and what makes Barnet distinctive in particular our suburban family houses and gardens. Provides basis for more detailed design guidance on suburban streets whose residential character has changed or may change in future. Identifies strategic locations for tall buildings and locally important viewing corridors.
- **Promoting Barnet's Town Centres** - sets out priorities for improving larger town centres, ensuring efficient use of land and buildings in such locations. It also provides protection for local neighbourhood centres and parades of shops because of their contribution to suburbs.
- **Protecting and Enhancing Barnet's Open Spaces** - ensures that access to open spaces is improved and that they become more attractive as places to a wider range of users. Highlights protection and enhancement of biodiversity.
- **Promoting a Strong and Prosperous Barnet** - sets out how we support businesses (especially small to medium enterprises) and residents (particularly in developing skills) to access the regeneration opportunities in a changing borough
- **Providing Safe, Effective and Efficient Travel** – sets out priorities of ensuring more efficient use of the road network including taking a comprehensive approach to tackling the school run. Highlights delivery of high quality transport systems in regeneration areas and town centres as well as seeking more environmentally friendly transport networks.
- **Enabling Inclusive Integrated Community Facilities and Uses** – ensures community buildings including schools, libraries and meeting spaces are located where they are easily accessible and that new and existing provision is used more efficiently for joint service delivery
- **Improving Health and Well Being** – supports the plans of NHS Barnet and its successors to deliver modern primary care and the creation of healthier neighbourhoods. It also highlights that residential care homes are overprovided and should be remodelled to widen housing choice
- **Making Barnet a Safer Place** - ensures that streets, town centres and open spaces feel safer and that new development designs out crime. It also highlights partnership working with the Metropolitan Police on re-modelling its estate as a basis for an effective and responsive police service in Barnet
- **Ensuring the Efficient Use of Natural Resources** - sets out our priorities to reduce carbon emissions and use energy and water more efficiently as well as reduce the impact of noise and air pollution
- **Dealing with our Waste** - promotes waste minimisation and provides link to the North London Waste Plan
- **Delivering the Core Strategy** - sets out monitoring arrangements and provides context for the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and how the necessary infrastructure will

be funded and delivered

How to have your say

The full Core Strategy is available on our website

www.barnet.gov.uk/planning-core-strategy-consultation

Copies can be viewed at any library in Barnet and at the Barnet House planning reception
In order to make comments please use the Representation Form or follow the format of the Representation Form setting out the section of the document you are referring to, the reason is justified, effective or consistent for your comment and your proposed change for improving the document.

In order for your voice to be heard at Examination in Public it is important that you follow this format.

Please send your comments by e-mail or by post to
Forward.planning@barnet.gov.uk

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The closing date for comments is **5pm on Wednesday June 22 2011**