



Full Council
25th November 2019

**Report from the Strategic Director
of Regeneration & Environment**

Inclusive Growth Strategy 2019-2040

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| Wards Affected: | All |
| Key or Non-Key Decision: | Key Decision |
| Open or Part/Fully Exempt: <small>(If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)</small> | Open |
| No. of Appendices: | 3 Appendix 1 – IGS documents (can be viewed by clicking here) Appendix 2 – IGS Partners for Brent Appendix 3 – Equality Impact Assessment |
| Background Papers: | 0 |
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1.0 Purpose of the Report

1.1 To present to Full Council the Inclusive Growth Strategy for endorsement and publication.

2.0 Recommendation(s)

2.1 To note the Inclusive Growth Strategy 2019-2040

2.2 To note that the Inclusive Growth Strategy research base, strategy documents and video will be presented to Cabinet for approval prior to publishing the strategy documents on the Council's website, and disseminating the same to key partners and stakeholders.

3.0 Detail

Inclusive Growth Strategy

- 3.1 The proposal for an Inclusive Growth Strategy to accompany forecast change, over the next 20 years, including significant population growth, demographic change and resource pressures, was first mooted in 2017, developed by officers over the past 2 years, and reported to PCG in April and October 2019.
- 3.2 Brent's Regeneration Strategy 2010-2030 was drawn up in 2009 and is in need of significant improvements. Since then, the Census 2011 identified a larger population in Brent, and much new growth projection data is now available. The London Plan has been revised twice, and the current Mayor of London has had a new London Plan examined, with adoption due Spring/Summer 2020. Brent has published its new Borough Plan 2019-23, and consulted on its new Local Plan, with examination due Spring/Summer 2020. Brent is the London Borough of Culture 2020. Much has changed and is expected to continue to change.
- 3.3 The Inclusive Growth Strategy (IGS) is a long term strategy that identifies choices available to meet the challenges and seize the opportunities of growth over the next 20 years. Broader in scope than a Regeneration Strategy, the IGS is supported by a detailed evidence base drawn up in-house by officers across all the council service areas, with early support provided by the LSE Cities programme. The IGS builds on the medium term Borough Plan and takes a longer term scan of the horizon of different futures. Headline growth trends and impacts considered in the IGS include:
- Brent's population projected to grow 17% and reach 400,000 people by 2040
 - Brent's population over 80 years old projected to double by 2040
 - Automation placing a third of jobs in Brent at higher risk
 - Employment growth in creative and circular economies
 - Rise of older workers driving demand for retraining and flexible employment
 - Increasing housing unaffordability, as house prices outstrip wage growth
 - Private renters increasing to be 40% of London's households by 2025
 - Growing water demand and widening deficit versus available water supply
 - Sewer capacity at critical levels by 2050 in north and west parts of Brent
 - Transformation of Brent's energy mix to reach zero carbon by 2050 – requiring fossil fuel use reduction of 80% and increased renewable energy use of 500%
 - Ageing population, obesity levels and increased risks for black and minority ethnic groups, driving even higher levels of diabetes in Brent's population

- Continued decline in traditional retail and greater high street diversification
- 3.4 Inclusive growth is proposed to be facilitated through evidence based actions, with an eye to wider societal changes: population and demographics, technology and lifestyle choices, and equality of opportunity and access to the benefits of growth. An annexed action plan details initiatives and actions, some of which are in train, some which can be considered in future years, to make the policy objectives and options happen.

The IGS therefore provides an invaluable body of forward-looking research and evidence. High level applications include:

- Joining up thinking and promoting longer-term and pre-emptive planning around the challenges and opportunities that stem from growth
 - Reference document and evidence base for policy and decision makers to draw upon when reviewing and formulating policy across a number of areas
 - Action plan provides a menu of options and initiatives to complement policy development and council service area planning
 - Establishes framework and evidence base for data capture and long term projections and impact analysis, with potential for future updates
- 3.5 In April 2019, Members of the Cabinet reviewed the IGS and officers took on three main actions:

- 1) Review data sources and improve document design and presentation
- 2) Produce an accessible synopsis to sit on top of the fuller documents
- 3) Engage and consult with external partners

3.6 Subsequently an extensive review of all data references in the IGS Research Base was undertaken. One third of quantitative data sets were updated with newer data, and qualitative analysis subsequently updated to reflect the new data. The IGS Full Strategy document was then refreshed in light of the new data.

3.7 To make the IGS more accessible to people a synopsis and video were created. The 25-page IGS Synopsis compliments the longer and more detailed IGS Full Strategy and Research Base. All IGS documents are available for download via the link below, and recommended to be published on the Council's website:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3tje529702osdc5/AADATe90-ZhyY-CrCMH59g-Ga?dl=0>

3.8 A video production company was appointed to produce a short 5-minute video (with subtitles). The video provides a quick and easy to understand snapshot of the IGS for partners, businesses and residents of the borough, and is available to view via the link below.

<https://youtu.be/13vCXlqkzfl>

3.9 The IGS was presented to Partners for Brent on 10th October 2019. The event

was well attended and workshops held on Housing and Infrastructure, in response to partner requests to hold sessions on those specific themes. Discussion and feedback received from partners was captured at the session, and the IGS documents reviewed in light of that feedback. A copy of the Partners for Brent attendance list, presentation slide pack, notes recorded at the event, feedback analysis and subsequent amendments made to the IGS documents is appended to this report, as is feedback from Brent's Senior Managers Group, 7th October 2019 (Appendix 2).

- 3.10 The IGS documents were sent to all partners post the event and feedback requested. Follow ups for detailed feedback from the West London Alliance, Environment Agency and Crisis were made after offers for such by those organisations at the event. No additional feedback has been received to date.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 Costs of development of the Inclusive Growth Strategy (IGS) have been met from within existing budgets.

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 Legal have reviewed the Annexed Action Plan and identified areas that if fully implemented may be expected to require Strategic Environmental Assessment as part of the statutory planning process under the Local Plan.

6.0 Equality Implications

- 6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is attached at Appendix 3.
- 6.2 The IGS is viewed as having the potential to advance equality of opportunity, with the potential of positive impacts for people with the following protected characteristics: Age, Sex, Race, Disability, Pregnancy and Maternity.

7.0 Consultation with Ward Members and Stakeholders

- 7.1 The IGS was considered by Members of the Cabinet on 11th April 2019 and 24th October 2019. The IGS was presented at Partners for Brent 10th October 2019, with a wide range of partners in attendance, and discussion at the event used to develop the IGS (see Appendix 2). The Lead Member for Regeneration, Property & Planning has been regularly briefed throughout the development of the IGS.

8.0 Human Resources/Property Implications

- 8.1 Regeneration has project managed production of the IGS in consultation with service areas across the Council.

Report sign off:

AMAR DAVE

Strategic Director of Regeneration & Environment.