

 Brent  West and North London	Brent Health and Wellbeing Board 17 September 2026
	Report from the Interim Director of Public Health and Leisure
	Lead Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Public Health – Cllr Liz Dixon
Cancer Health Needs Assessment	

Wards Affected:	All Brent
Key or Non-Key Decision:	Not applicable
Open or Part/Fully Exempt: (If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)	Open
List of Appendices:	Appendix 1 – Presentation: Cancer health needs assessment
Background Papers:	None
Contact Officer(s): (Name, Title, Contact Details)	Mai Stafford Head of Evidence & Insight, Public Health Mai.stafford@brent.gov.uk

1.0 Executive Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of presenting this cancer health needs assessment to Health and Wellbeing Board members is to highlight the statistics on cancer in our borough and our work to reduce cancer and its impact on Brent residents.
- 1.2 Cancer affects 1 in 2 people during their lifetime. Cancer is a leading cause of death. Cancer prevention and earlier diagnosis is a key clinical area for the NHS and for Public Health, nationally and locally in Brent.

2.0 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 The board is recommended to note the presentation.
- 2.2 Board members are asked to advocate for cancer prevention and early detection services, especially for segments of the Brent population that are currently facing the greatest cancer-related risks.
- 2.3 Board members are asked to affirm that cancer prevention and care should be included in the new Health and Wellbeing Strategy which is currently being developed.

3.0 Detail

3.1 Contribution to Borough Plan Priorities & Strategic Context

- 3.1.1 The Borough Plan sets out the ambition for a healthier Brent, with narrower health inequalities between groups and culturally competent services where residents are involved in shaping local solutions. With cancer being a leading cause of death and morbidity, cancer services need to be part of the offer for a healthier Brent.
- 3.1.2 As laid out in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2022-2027), community-based health checks and health promotion activities focus on cancer, among other health conditions.
- 3.1.3 Regionally, the Royal Marsden (RM) Partners published the cancer strategy for North West London (2025-2030). RM Partners is the NW and SW London Cancer Alliance. Nationally, the Department for Health and Social Care recently released its 10-year strategy (2026-2035) for improving cancer care and outcomes.

3.2 Background

- 3.2.1 The cancer health needs assessment is one of Brent's Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNA) products. The JSNA is a big-picture analysis which provides intelligence on health and health inequalities. It is regularly updated and or added to.
- 3.2.2 The JSNA products inform the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and other council strategies.
- 3.2.3 The cancer health needs assessment describes cancer morbidity, mortality, diagnosis and management in Brent. It highlights where public health and partners can play a role in improving cancer prevention and treatment.
- 3.2.4 A number of health challenges are identified in the needs assessment, including low uptake of cancer screening compared with benchmarks, and inequalities in cancer which disproportionately affect people living in more deprived areas and some ethnic groups.

4.0 Stakeholder and ward member consultation and engagement

- 4.1 There has been no statutory consultation on this cancer health needs assessment. However, several stakeholders have been engaged during its preparation. This includes stakeholders that are involved in commissioning or planning cancer services, as well as residents at higher risk of cancer. This engagement supported with data sharing, data collection, analysis and interpretation of findings.

5.0 Financial Considerations

- 5.1 There are no direct budgetary implications arising from this cancer health needs assessment. However, the needs assessment highlights areas where continued investment in services is wanted.

6.0 Legal Considerations

- 6.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this cancer health needs assessment.

7.0 Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Considerations

- 7.1 Within the presentation, we note where there are substantial inequalities in cancer health or cancer services. These inequalities exist across levels of deprivation (based on the Indices of Multiple Deprivation), ethnicity, and age.

8.0 Climate Change and Environmental Considerations

- 8.1 There are no direct environmental sustainability implications.

9.0 Human Resources/Property Considerations (if appropriate)

- 9.1 Not applicable.

10.0 Communication Considerations

- 10.1 There are no direct communication considerations arising from the cancer health needs assessment.

Report sign off:

Ruth du Plessis, Director of Public Health and Leisure, on behalf of Rachel Crosley, Corporate Director of Service Reform and Strategy