



Cabinet
14 August 2017

**Report from the Director of
Performance, Policy and
Partnerships**

Wards affected:
ALL

Progress update on Borough Plan 2015-2019

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update on progress against the outcomes of the Brent Borough Plan 2015-19. Where available and relevant, this draws upon data from the council's corporate suite of key performance indicators (KPIs) or from other indicators monitored locally or nationally. For each outcome, there is also a status of red, amber/red, amber/green or green to indicate if the outcome is on track to be achieved.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Cabinet is recommended to:
- 2.2 Review the progress against Borough Plan outcomes as at 2017.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 Following detailed discussion with partners in the statutory and voluntary sectors, as well as an extensive public consultation exercise, the Borough Plan was endorsed by Cabinet in December 2014, by Partners for Brent in February 2015, and finally agreed by Council in March 2015. It constituted a community strategy for Brent and set out how the council, its partner services, local residents, local business and the voluntary and community sector would, working together, improve the quality of life locally.
- 3.2 The Borough Plan contains 36 outcomes, across three priorities:
- Better Lives
 - Better Place, and
 - Better Locally.
- 3.3 These outcomes would be achieved over the lifetime of the Plan, from 2015 until 2019. This update therefore comes approximately halfway through the

period, and services have mostly rated their own progress against the outcomes, bearing this in mind. Progress is rated on a colour scale, to indicate the extent to which the outcome is on-track for delivery. (It should be noted that where data or evidence is not available to directly measure an outcome as set out in the Plan, other data or evidence may be employed as a proxy measure, and a judgement made.)

- 3.4 Of the 36 outcomes, 17 (47.2%) have been rated as green; nine (25%) as amber/green; eight (22.2%) as amber/red; and one (2.8%) as red. The remaining outcome (2.8%) has not been accorded a RAG status, as its measurement is dependent on the Residents' Attitude Survey, which has not been undertaken since 2014 (though some satisfaction data is provided for a small number of specific services, along with contextual national data).
- 3.5 Notable achievements for the outcomes include:
- Additional school places at Reception addressing demand
 - A higher proportion of safeguarding outcomes for adults being met
 - Increased resident satisfaction with the cleanliness and appearance of our streets, parks and green spaces
 - Increased participation in sport, physical recreation and cultural activities, with more visits to sports centres and libraries
 - A significant increase in the number of voters registered under the individual voter registration scheme, particularly in 2017
 - Additional volunteers registered across the borough through the council's contract with Groundwork for Volunteer Brent, and increased support for local voluntary sector groups
 - Numerous awards and accreditations for the council in recognition of equality outcomes, and
 - New service models developed and run in partnership with local people and organisations, such as the Harlesden Hub and the single homelessness pathway.
- 3.6 There are also a number of areas where further work is required. For example:
- In line with the rest of London, violent crime has increased, and the police are targeting problem areas and high risk individuals in relation to violent crime, with all wards to have two ring-fenced officers by the end of 2017. Domestic abuse offences have also risen, though this is likely due to improved reporting and flagging methods. A range of support for both victims and perpetrators is being provided through the Troubled Families programme, and this area is also the subject of an Outcomes Based Review.
 - Delivery of affordable housing has not reached target levels (though Brent has consistently been in the top ten London authorities delivering affordable homes) – the council is tackling this by actively engaging with registered providers to encourage them to build in Brent, and plans to continue through its two Housing Zones and receipts from Right to Buy.
 - The gap between the Brent employment rate and that of London has widened, as has that between average incomes – though the council

continues to address these through initiatives like the Living Room, promotion of the London Living Wage and apprenticeships, and further planning with the Brent Business Skills Board.

- Local health services have been judged to require improvement at inspection, and Inequalities in life expectancy for men appear to be widening (though data is published several years in arrears, and so the impact of the Borough Plan cannot yet be measured).

3.7 Looking forward to the next version of the Borough Plan, the council and its partners will likely wish to review how outcomes and targets are set, so as to ensure that these represent realistic goals that are achievable within the lifetime of the Plan, whilst continuing to encourage improved performance. This should also provide a clear focus on our Brent 2020 priorities, as the areas which will make a significant difference in light of the challenges and opportunities facing the borough, ie employment and skills; physical, social and environmental regeneration; business and housing related growth; demand management; and raising income through our assets.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 None

5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 The council's Borough Plan 2015-19 is its current sustainable community strategy and forms part of the council's Policy Framework under the Constitution.

6.0 Diversity Implications

6.1 None

7.0 Staffing/Accommodation Implications (if appropriate)

7.1 None

8.0 Background Papers

None

9.0 Contact Officers

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