

 Brent	Cabinet 11 February 2019
	Report from the Director of Performance, Policy & Partnerships
Borough Plan 2019-23	

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision:	Key
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:	Two: Appendix 1 - Draft Borough Plan 2019-23 Appendix 2 - Draft Delivery Plan 2019/20
Background Papers:	None
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1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report presents the draft Borough Plan 2019-23 and Delivery Plan 2019/20, which set out Brent's vision, strategic themes and priorities.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Cabinet is asked to consider and agree the draft Borough Plan (Appendix 1) and Delivery Plan (Appendix 2) for adoption in April 2019.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 Cabinet members and departments have been working together to develop the Council's vision and strategic priorities for 2019-23, based on the Brent Labour Party Manifesto.

- 3.2 The vision for 2023 retains continuity with that of the previous Borough Plan. However, there is a new emphasis on culture and ensuring that opportunities in Brent are shared amongst communities. This is particularly important as we look forward to being London Borough of Culture 2020, and work to ensure that regeneration and growth benefits everyone.
- 3.3 Financial context has also strongly influenced the plan, with further major savings required over the coming years. The plan makes clear that as demand grows and needs become more complex, we must focus on the things that matter most, work collaboratively and in new and more efficient ways.
- 3.4 The Borough Plan sets out five strategic themes, each of which include a number of high-level desired outcomes:

Every opportunity to succeed – working in partnership to support children and young people’s educational attainment and training

A future built for everyone, an economy fit for all – regenerating our borough to grow the local economy and provide the jobs, homes and transport that people need

A cleaner, more considerate Brent – improving air quality and keeping our environment clean and pleasant

A borough where we can all feel safe, secure, happy and healthy – building stronger, safer and healthier communities, with opportunities to enjoy Brent’s unique cultural heritage, and support for vulnerable children and adults to be as independent as possible

Strong foundations – ensuring that the council and its partners are structured and equipped to secure the best possible outcomes for local people, within a context of diminishing resources.

- 3.5 A Delivery Plan has also been created (see Appendix 2), and is the means by which progress on the Borough Plan will be monitored. The Delivery Plan sets out practical steps to achieve the desired outcomes, and will itself be updated annually to take account of changing priorities.
- 3.6 Progress with the Borough Plan will be reported to Cabinet at key intervals during 2019/20.

Consultation

- 3.7 Consultation played a key part in shaping the Borough Plan – firstly through the Resident Attitudes Survey and subsequently a public consultation via the online portal. It was also considered at Brent Connects meetings and staff away-days.
- 3.8 There was a good response to the consultation. Comments were mixed – a number of residents used the consultation to comment on specific concerns such as traffic and a perceived lack of police officers on the beat. There were

also several comments which were supportive of the council's strategic priorities.

4.0 Legal implications

- 4.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from the report, however legal advice will be provided as required as the proposals in the Borough Plan are implemented.

5.0 Financial implications

- 5.1 The draft Borough Plan highlights the existing financial context, i.e. that local government will experience the most significant reform of its funding arrangements for two decades. The Fair Funding review, reset of business rates baselines and changes to the business rates retention system all have critical implications for the distribution of funding across local government. At the same time, the results of Spending Review 2019 will affect the total level of funding available to the sector from April 2020.

- 5.2 The Budget report sets out the overall financial position facing the council for the next four years and highlights the significant risks, issues and uncertainties. It also sets out the draft budget proposals that will be consulted upon for the period 2019/20 to 2020/21 in order to deliver a balanced budget. Broadly, savings of around £40m will have to be found to balance the budget over the lifetime of the plan.

6.0 Equality implications

- 6.1 Under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) in the Equality Act 2010, Brent is required to pay due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who do and do not have a protected characteristic.
- 6.2 There will be equality implications, positive and negative, for many of the activities undertaken under the Borough Plan. Equality analyses will be undertaken in relation to these as they are developed and implemented.

Report sign off:

PETER GADSDON

Director of Performance, Policy and Partnerships