



Cabinet
9 December 2019

Report from the Assistant Chief Executive

BOROUGH PLAN UPDATE

Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision: (only applicable for Cabinet, Cabinet Sub Committee and officer decisions)	Key
Open or Part/Fully Exempt: (If exempt, please highlight relevant paragraph of Part 1, Schedule 12A of 1972 Local Government Act)	Open
No. of Appendices:	One: Appendix A - Development Plan Update
Background Papers:	None
Contact Officer(s): (Name, Title, Contact Details)	Pascoe Sawyers Head of Strategy & Partnerships 020 8937 1045, Pascoe.Sawyers@brent.gov.uk

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of the mid-year update of the Borough Plan's Delivery Plan for 2019-20.

2.0 Recommendations for Cabinet

- 2.1 Cabinet is asked to consider the summary. For more detail, the full delivery plan update has been provided as an appendix.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 A delivery plan was created alongside the Borough Plan, to focus on the council's objectives for 2019/20. The delivery plan would be updated annually as priorities evolve.
- 3.2 The delivery plan captures almost 100 different actions across the Borough Plan's five strategic themes. Strategy and Partnerships has worked with colleagues across directorates to update the progress of the actions. The

following summary gives an overview across all activity by providing several bullet points for each of the Desired Outcomes.

Every Opportunity to Succeed

- 3.3 Improvement in Key Stage results – Boys of Black Caribbean heritage:
- 72 schools have been engaging with the full Raising the Achievement of Boys of Black Caribbean Heritage project.
 - As part of this project, 76 Black Caribbean Achievement Champions are working across Brent schools.
 - Current data from schools indicates that 7 of 27 boys excluded for a fixed-term in secondary schools and 7 of 19 boys excluded for a fixed-term in primary schools are of Black Caribbean heritage. There can be a time-lag in receiving data from schools and therefore this data may change.
- 3.4 Improvement in Key Stage results – Looked After Children and Care Leavers:
- Personalised support packages are in place to support LAC across key school years, including tutoring, group booster classes and GCSE re-sits for those who do not achieve Level 4 in core subjects.
 - Increasing numbers of care leavers are going into education, employment or training (EET) thanks to Brent Virtual School (BVS) and other targeted partnership working. The target of 57% is expected to be met this year.
 - LAC attendance at Key Stage 3 and 4 is close to target, and BVS is working to improve this further.
- 3.5 High-level skills achievement & increase in apprenticeships:
- The Brent Start contract is delivering a 93.2% achievement rate – an increase of 10% over 4 years. It is being evaluated in November 2019, as we seek official 'Outstanding' status.
 - Brent Works has so far supported 30 residents into apprenticeships across a range of sectors during 19/20.
 - The Wembley Jobs and Apprenticeships Show took place to great success in 2019, and the follow-up event planned for 2020 will be even bigger.

A Future Built for Everyone, An Economy Fit for All

- 3.6 Increase level of inward investment achieved via the council:
- Brent for Business has commissioned a whole programme of events in 19/20, including Business Awards 2020 and Business Expo 2020. The Brent for Business website is live and the newsletter has over 1000 subscribers.
 - An Affordable Workspace Strategy and Action Plan are being developed, to improve affordable workspace outcomes in the borough.
- 3.7 Produce our new Local Plan:
- A publication version of the plan has been shared and is out for consultation until 5 December

- 3.8 Increase in housing supply:
- 1164 new homes are currently being either designed, in planning, or in construction through the New Council Homes Programme.
 - 121 new affordable homes have been delivered to date, which is above target. It is estimated that 473 new affordable homes will be completed by the end of the financial year.
 - The draft Local Plan includes an affordable housing policy, which seeks 50% affordable housing on schemes of 10 units or more.
- 3.9 Reduction in Temporary Accommodation:
- As at 30 September, 198 families have been accommodated in the PRS to prevent their homelessness.
 - 25 properties have been purchased by i4B and the current forecast is that 60 will have been acquired by 31 March 2020. Since last April 44 i4B properties have been let to homeless families to end the homeless duty.

A Cleaner, More Considerate Brent

- 3.10 Tackling the Climate and Ecological Emergency
- An internal review of current council activity on environmental sustainability, and a Brent Carbon Scenarios 2030 study have been conducted.
 - Brent's first Climate Assembly will be convened in November 2019, involving the community in developing proposals for action.
- 3.11 Improvement in air quality:
- The council is increasing the number of trees that are planted – using CIL, sponsorship and other external sources for funding provision. Existing tree cover, levels of deprivation and quality of air are all factors in where trees are planted.
- 3.12 Reduction in illegally-dumped rubbish:
- The time taken to remove waste is ahead of target, despite the high number of reports to the council.
 - Community action days takes place in each of the 5 neighbourhoods every 3 months, attended by neighbourhood managers.

A Borough Where We Can All Feel Safe, Secure, Happy and Healthy

- 3.13 Reduction in ASB, risk of harm and re-offending:
- 4 neighbourhood patrol officers have been recruited to target hotspots and enforce fines and warnings.
 - Community safety managers from Brent, Harrow and Barnet meet regularly for Joint Local Action – to explore potential service alignments or commissioning opportunities.
 - NIA have been commissioned as prostitution outreach workers and deliver a night and day service.
- 3.14 Reduction in violent crime, including gang and knife crime:

- The Safer Brent Violent Crime Action Plan is seen as an example of best practice by MOPAC.
- The reoffending rate by young offenders continues to reduce. At the end of Q2 the rate is at 42.9%, which is above target.
- A project to identify young people involved in County Lines is ongoing and links with the Violence and Vulnerability Programme.

3.15 Support our most vulnerable adults:

- The Brent NAIL programme will deliver 157 units of NAIL accommodation in 19/20. Visram House, our 99-bed extra care scheme, has opened.
- Additional schemes are being planned for delivery in future years, such as Honey Pot Lane, Watling Gardens, Knowles House and London Road.

Strong Foundations

3.16 Enabling residents to go online; building more services around residents and their needs:

- All council appointments are now bookable online. A CRM system will be rolled out following updates from testing.
- Specific portals for housing management customers and general customer contact are due to go live at the end of November, and a complaints portal will follow.
- There has been a very positive response to the new Kilburn hub, with higher-than-expected numbers of residents engaging with it.

3.17 Ensure VFM through commissioning and procurement:

- A review of all arrangements to make savings is ongoing. Procurement team is providing supplier spend data for each Directorate to support conversations around the Budget Challenge sessions.

3.18 Increase in resident satisfaction:

- Three community hubs are now operational – Harlesden, Kilburn & Willesden Green. Ealing Road & Kingsbury are on track to go live before end of March 2020, six months ahead of schedule.

3.19 Increase in resident involvement:

- Review of community engagement is underway and will complete in June 2020. Findings will help implement greater resident involvement in decision-making.
- The profile of the council's wide range of grants streams has been raised over the past six months, including promotion at Brent Connects, which has increased the number of applications received.

4.0 Legal implications

4.1 None arising directly from the report.

5.0 Financial implications

5.1 None arising directly from the report.

6.0 Equality implications

6.1 None arising directly from the report.

Report sign off:

PETER GADSDON
Assistant Chief Executive