

## **Borough Plan 2023-27**

### Evidence Base

#### **Introduction**

This pack will be used as a supplementary appendix to the Brent Borough Plan 2023-27. This document should also be view alongside the Borough Plan Engagement Findings Report 2023 which captures key feedback, ideas and suggestions during the draft Borough Plan 2023-27 consultation.

The evidence base aims to contextualise the overarching ambitions and priorities for Brent over the next four years. It brings together information about challenges and opportunities for the borough, both about the local, national and global context in which we are working and information on what the council is doing under each priority.

It contains data from Brent Council, central government, partner organisations, and Census 2021. Any data included is already available online through Brent websites (including data.brent.gov.uk), government departmental websites and partner organisation websites.

#### **Who we are**

- Brent has 339,800 residents, making us the fifth largest borough in London
- 19% of our population is under 16, and 11.6% is 65 or older
- 56% of residents were born outside of the UK
- 65.4% of residents are from a Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic background
- 3.2% of Brent residents are LGBT+
- 51% of Brent's residents are female and 49% are male
- After English, our most spoken languages are Gujarati, Romanian and Arabic

#### **What Brent should look like in 2027?**

Most popular key words, Brent residents used in their replies:

- clean
- safe
- green
- community
- housing
- education
- young people
- healthy
- happy
- environmentally friendly
- inclusive

#### **Prosperity and Stability in Brent**

Quotes from the draft Borough Plan consultation:

*"More education opportunities for adults."*

*"No person living in poverty."*

*"More work experience and degree apprenticeship opportunities for the best start in careers."*

*"Brent should put more focus on affordable housing and supporting residents."*

*"End homelessness in Brent."*

#### Context Setting

- 33% of Brent residents live in poverty once their housing costs are taken into account
- 31,974 parcels were given out by local food banks in 2020/21

- 36.2% percent of people live in the private rented sector – more than any other tenure type
- 28% of Brent Residents earn less than the living wage of £11.05 per hour
- 7.7% of residents aged 16-64 have no formal qualifications at all – the second highest level in London
- There were 1,671 Brent households in temporary accommodation at the end of June 2022

### What We've Done

- Our Resident Support Fund received 6,609 applications in 2021-22, 501 of which were for the digital support package
- Demand for Community Hubs is growing, with 11,823 residents seeking help in 2021-22
- Last year 273 residents were helped into employment or apprenticeships through Brent Works – 171 of these were in work paying on or above the London Living Wage
- At the end of June 2022, Brent had so far delivered 660 homes of its 1,000 new council homes target. There are additional 496 homes on site and another 440 with planning permission and moving to site shortly.

### **A Cleaner, Greener Future**

#### Quotes from the draft Borough Plan consultation

*“Vibrant, green, and energy conscious.”*

*“A greener borough with increased tree cover.”*

*“There should be much less traffic and litter/fly tipping.”*

*“More trees, wildlife and greenery, well kept parks.”*

*“More accessible services.”*

*“Cleaner, less pollution, less traffic, less waste.”*

#### Context Setting & What We've Done

- Brent Council looks after 114 parks and open spaces covering 458 hectares.
- In 2020-21, only 33.4% of Brent's Household waste was recycled
- We cleared 27,363 illegal rubbish dumps in 2022
- In 2022 we collected over 85,000 tons of waste and recycling
- We've planted 4,533 trees, 22 wildflower meadows, and bee corridors across the borough
- We covered 2,400 miles of the borough's roads with 230 tons of salt with the help of carbon-friendly electric salt-spreading gritters

### **Thriving Communities**

#### Quotes from the draft Borough Plan consultation

*“Safe for everyone.”*

*“More representative workforce – diversity.”*

*“Significantly reduced crime - safer Brent, cleaner Brent.”*

*“Healthy, engaged, and educated.”*

*“Less crime and better street safety.”*

*“Safer for women.”*

#### Context Setting & What We've Done

- 641 residents attended the 10 participatory budgeting decision day events, with 89 local projects being either fully or partially funded.
- 58% of residents would like to be more involved in decisions made in the local area
- In 2022 there were 944 robbery, 1,970 burglary, and 6,423 theft offences in Brent

- Brent Council has the most ethnically diverse workforce of all London councils with 66% of staff identifying as Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic, compared to 46% for London as a whole

## **The Best Start in Life**

### Quotes from the draft Borough Plan consultation

*“Trying to build more youth focused community initiatives.”*

*“Where children can go healthy and happy.”*

*“Young people should have access to more work experiences.”*

*“More engaged young people.”*

*“A place where children whatever their background are given a fantastic start in their early schooling.”*

*“Happier, cleaner, greener and youth focused.”*

### Context Setting

- 62% of Key Stage 2 pupils meet the expected standard in reading, writing and maths – this is the fifth lowest in London, below the 66% average
- 14.3% of pupils have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
- Child poverty in Brent is 39.5% a figure which has changed very little in the past eight years
- Only 77% of three and four year old children in Brent benefit from funded early education, compared to 92% nationally
- 7,765 pupils are eligible for free school meals

### What We've Done

- In 2022 we supported 4,644 families at eight Family Wellbeing Centres
- In 2021/22 46 residents engaged with Moving on Up, our programme supporting young black men aged 16-24
- 97.6% of our schools are rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted
- In 2021/22 we completed 269 Early Help Assessments and reviews per 10,000 children, with new workers embedded in the Early Help Service to help us exceed target
- 81% of Looked After Children in years 12 and 13 are in education, employment or training

## **A Healthier Brent**

### Quotes from the draft Borough Plan consultation

*“More services for those with mental health problems in the community.”*

*“Healthy – less obesity.”*

*“Healthy, happy and community minded.”*

*“Healthier, more activity within all age groups so that we reduce the chances of health issues in the future.”*

*“A happier borough, mental health focus and opportunities for developing community resilience.”*

### Context Setting

- Only 18.7% of people in Brent aged 40-74 have received an NHS health check – well below the London average of 33.0%
- Brent is ranked ninth in London for the prevalence of obesity in year six pupils, with 25.2% of pupils being obese
- 8.9% of Brent residents aged 17+ have diabetes
- 40.1% of Brent five year olds have visually obvious dental decay
- 29.6% of Brent children are active for an average of less than 30 minutes a day
- 59% of residents feel there are enough opportunities to improve their health through exercise, down from 69% in 2018

## What We've Done

- In 2022 we organised health events which were attended by over 3,000 people, and completed almost 2,500 free health checks
- 534 free dental checks took place in 2022
- In 2021/22, there were 1,148,815 wet, dry or virtual visits to Brent's sports centres
- 60.8% of new birth visits took place within 14 days in 2021/22
- All residents live within one mile of one of our 20 outdoor gyms

This document contains data collected from the following sources:

- Census 2021
- ONS Small Area Poverty Estimates
- Trussel Trust
- Sufra
- Annual Population Survey
- Internal Brent Council data
- Brent Council Resident Attitudes Survey
- Metropolitan Police Crime Data Dashboard
- Department for Education: Key Stage 2 Attainment
- Department for Education: Special educational needs
- Department for Education: Education provision for children under 5 years of age in England
- Department for Education: Schools, pupils and their characteristics
- End Child Poverty
- Office for Health Improvement and Disparities: Optimise Health & Reduce Risks Early
- Office for Health Improvement and Disparities: Child Health Profiles
- Sport England Active Lives Survey
- Office for Health Improvement and Disparities: Diabetes Prevalence and risk