

Community Leadership and Libraries Committee

The committee is responsible for grants to the voluntary sector, community engagement, libraries, culture, registration and nationality services, civic events and community safety. It also determines applications for buildings / land to be listed as an Asset of Community Value.

Introduction:

Barnet benefits from having safe, strong, diverse and cohesive communities and we want to ensure this continues. This means working with the police and our partners so that crime levels in the borough remain low and people feel safe. Our vision is for our communities to be engaged and more cohesive, with residents and community groups being involved in the design and delivery of services where appropriate, and residents having more options available to them. Communities will also take responsibility for their local areas, will be independent and resilient. Our modern and connected libraries will support this by helping to bring people together, acting as a focal point for communities and assisting resident groups to support their local area.

Committee Priorities for 2019-2024

Corporate priority	How we will deliver this by 2024
Keeping Barnet safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining low levels of crime, anti-social behaviour and substance misuse on our streets • Ensuring the effective management of offenders to reduce offending • Supporting victims of crime and anti-social behaviour to reduce the risk of repeat victimisation • Delivering the Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy • Delivering a multi-agency response to violence, vulnerability and the criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults • Reducing the fear of crime
Tackling anti-social behaviour and environmental crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering targeted multi-agency interventions in areas subjected to persistent crime, anti-social behaviour and environmental crime • Using enforcement tools and powers to protect communities, reduce offending and increase compliance
Celebrating our diverse and strong communities and taking a zero-tolerance approach to hate crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising awareness of Barnet’s diverse communities and providing opportunities to celebrate and promote cohesion • Preventing radicalisation and supporting victims of hate crime, including raising awareness • Working with local community groups to respond to Hate Crime • Mapping and building relationships with new and emerging communities
Focusing on the strengths of the community and what they can do to help themselves and each other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging individual and corporate volunteers to help build active communities • Providing access to a comprehensive directory of community resources • Supporting the voluntary, community and faith sector to build capacity for meeting the needs of residents • Developing strong and resilient partnerships through the Communities Together Network and Barnet Multi-Faith Forum
Additional committee priority	How we will deliver this by 2024
Continuing to maximise access to libraries through a technology and digitally enabled service that serves our communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing spaces to hire for community groups in all Barnet’s Libraries and enable rooms and events to be booked on line • Raising awareness of the range of services available through libraries to maximise use • Providing an enhanced library management system to enable residents to search for information, and reserve books and other items online