Annual Summary of Service Area Consultation

This section gives an overview of the major public and stakeholder consultation exercises carried out by Brent Council service areas between January 2010 and March 2011

1. **Brent's parenting strategy**
The council invited comments from service users on Brent's draft parenting strategy. Feedback was used to inform on the final version of the strategy.

2. **Brent's parenting website survey**
The council sought the views of Brent parents and carers on the development of a dedicated website. The parenting support website provides timely, informative and accurate information on the type of help and advice available. Results from an earlier parenting strategy consultation indicated that parents and carers were often unclear as to where to find advice and information.

3. **Parenting Practitioner Survey**
A survey designed to inform the Brent’s Children’s Workforce Development Strategy by highlighting the roles, range and type of work and professional development requirements of individual practitioners working with children, young people and their families in Brent. Survey aimed at all practitioners regardless of who they work for. Feedback will inform the ‘Young People’s Plan’ and a new parenting strategy.

4. **Brent’s School Extranet website Survey**
This consultation sought service users’ views on Brent schools’ extranet - a password protected area of the Brent website containing specific information aimed at all school and children's centre employees and other interested parties such as Brent's school governors. The primary purpose of the website is to support the publication of information to schools, and remove the dependency upon receiving information via postal communication i.e. school bag.

5. **Disabled Children's Access to Childcare (DCATCH) Survey**
Disabled Children Access to Childcare (DCATCH) is part of the Government's ‘Aiming High for Disabled Children’ initiative, placing families with disabled children and young people at the top of the childcare agenda and providing new opportunities to increase access to services.

The children and young people's plan (CYPP) is a document that describes how a range of organisations in Brent, collectively known as Brent children's partnership (BCP), will work together to provide excellent services for the borough’s young residents. The plan was written with the help of staff who work with children and young people as well as with the help of young people from Brent youth parliament (BYP) who told the council what was important to them and needed to be included in the plan.
7. **Sports Centre User Survey 2010**
Brent Council undertakes this nationally recognised survey every year via sports centre users. The survey is used to gain feedback on the services the council provides at sports centres. Survey findings were also to benchmark satisfaction standards of Brent services against other local authorities and to develop action plans for service improvement.

8. **Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2011 – service users aged 5 to 17**
Under the Childcare Act 2006 local authorities have a statutory duty to secure sufficient childcare for the needs of working parents/carers in their area for children until they reach the age of 14 years, (18 in the case of children with a disability). A core element of this statutory duty is to complete a Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) every three years which assesses the supply of, and demand for, childcare in the local authority and identifies any gaps in provision. The document helped to fulfil the duty to complete a CSA.

9. **South Kilburn Regeneration – New Homes Exhibitions**
This consultation was a key part of the delivery programme of new homes and improved neighbourhoods in South Kilburn. Design started on three sites in the area and planning applications were submitted in December 2010.

10. **South Kilburn Regeneration – Resident Design Group**
This consultation was part of the delivery of new homes and improved neighbourhoods in South Kilburn which is now underway. Design has started on two sites in the area with a programme to submit planning applications in late 2011/early 2012.

11. **Brent Council Parks Bye-Laws**
This survey was carried out as part of Brent Council’s review and update of its parks bye-laws.

12. **Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2010**
The council carried out this survey as part of its statutory obligation under the 2006 Childcare Act to ensure sufficient childcare provision across the borough to allow parents and carers to access work, education or training towards work.

13. **Brent Household Waste Collection Strategy 2010**
The council consulted with residents on its ambitious plans to improve the waste and recycling collection service in the borough. The draft household waste collection strategy sets out the details for how waste management will be delivered in Brent over the next five years. The new service is on track to save the council around £1 million after the first two years of implementation. Response from the consultation has helped the council to review and amend the strategy accordingly.

14. **Fuel Poverty in Brent**
The council commissioned this survey to understand more about peoples’ experiences of living in a cold home, how it has affected their health and whether they have been able to do anything to modify and improve their home especially in winter.
15. Preston Manor High School - Proposed Expansion
Numbers of four year olds on school rolls are expected to rise significantly over the next three to four years. Demand for school places is exceeding supply in the borough. Brent Council has put forward the proposal to expand the school by creating a new two form of entry permanent primary provision from September 2011. This would mean that the school would lower its age limit by offering an ‘all-through’ permanent provision with 60 new reception places alongside the 252 existing Year 7 places.

16. Children and Young People’s Library Survey 2010
Brent Council consulted with service users to help inform future developments and improve library service for children and young people.

17. Active People Survey 5
The survey provides by far the largest sample size ever established for a sport and recreation survey and allows levels of detailed analysis previously unavailable. It identifies how participation varies from place to place and between different groups in the population. The survey also measured the proportion of the adult population that volunteer in sport on a weekly basis, club membership, involvement in organised sport/competition, receipt of tuition or coaching, and overall satisfaction with levels of sporting provisions in the local community.

18. Brentfield Primary School – Proposed Expansion
Numbers of four year olds on school rolls are expected to rise significantly over the next three to four years. Consultation on Brent Council’s proposal to expand the school by creating a new two form of entry permanent primary provision from September 2011. This has expanded the school by 1FE.

19. Newfield Primary School - Proposed Expansion
Numbers of four year olds on school rolls are expected to rise significantly over the next three to four years. The demand for school places is exceeding the supply in the borough. Consultation on Brent Council’s proposal to expand the school by creating a new two form of entry permanent primary provision from September 2011. This has expanded the school by 1FE.

20. Draft Brent Tobacco Control Strategy 2010-2013
Brent Council invited comments from residents on its draft tobacco control strategy. The strategy will support the community at large to stop smoking and help reduce the prevalence of other tobacco use in the borough.

21. Allocation of full time nursery places
A consultation was carried between 27 October and 17 December 2010 to seek service user views on changes to the allocation of full time nursery places. The proposal was to offer full time places based on need and deprivation.

22. Council Tax Customer Satisfaction Survey 2010
The survey was carried out to obtain customer feedback on level of satisfaction concerning council tax services delivered. For example, distribution of bills, processing of payments and responding to enquiries.
23. Proposed emissions based residents parking scheme
The council is proposing to introduce a new scale of charges for parking permits within the borough's controlled parking zones. The proposed scheme links parking permit charges to emissions levels. It would mean drivers pay less for cars with engines that produce fewer emissions.

24. Wembley Link Supplementary Planning Document
London Borough of Brent consulted the public and stakeholders on the Wembley Link Master plan Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The Wembley Link SPD refers to land on both sides of the Wembley High Road from Wembley Triangle to Chesterfield House (at the corner of High Road and Park Lane) including Brent House and Copland school sites. Brent Executive, at its meeting on 14 March 2011, considered the consultation responses and proposed changes to the draft plan. The Wembley Link SPD was adopted as supplementary to the council's 2010 Core Strategy and 2011 site specific allocation.

This was a consultation on new guidelines for considering large-scale waste water infrastructure projects was launched by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). The Waste Water NPS will be used by the Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) when deciding whether such applications should proceed. The NPS refers to two projects that may be dealt with by the IPC – the proposed treatment works at Deephams in North East London, and the Thames Tunnel which will carry waste water from sewage overflows which currently run into the Thames.

26. Libraries Transformation Project
The purpose of the Libraries Transformation Project consultation was to engage those who live or work in Brent in understanding and providing feedback on proposed changes to the way in which library services are delivered in the borough.

27. NEET Survey (Not in Employment Education or Training)
The Brent Connexions Service conducted a survey of young people (16 to 18 years old) in Brent who are not in employment, education or training (NEET) to find out the reasons behind this. Feedback from the survey will be used to tailor programmes for young people and to improve service offered by Brent Connexions.

28. Policy on Transport Support for Adult Social Care Clients
Brent Council has devised a new policy about the provision of transport for all adult social care clients. We want to promote independent living for clients and to encourage greater personal involvement in choices for their own care arrangements. The council is also looking to extend these principles to the provision of transport support.

29. Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Inclusion Strategy
This is a new strategy to help raise awareness of the needs of Brent’s Gypsy, Roma and Traveller population and make required services more accessible. The consultation on these contributed to making the final strategy as robust as possible.
Brent Council has submitted a draft Local Implementation Plan (LIP) to Transport for London (TfL) setting out how it will help deliver the London Mayor’s Transport Strategy. The local implementation plan set out Brent’s support for the Mayor’s key projects such as installing electric vehicle charging points across London. This will enable those who want to drive a vehicle powered by electricity, recharge easily. LIP also describes how the council intends to make the roads safer in Brent, encourage more people to cycle safely in the borough, join ‘car clubs’ and use buses, the underground and over ground rail more often.

31. Alperton Master plan
Brent has developed a master plan for Alperton which will become a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to the Local Development Framework (LDF). The Council has identified Alperton as a growth area which can accommodate new homes and supporting infrastructure. There is also an opportunity to substantially renew and improve the business and employment offer. Brent Council sought the views of residents on the draft Alperton Master plan SPD.

32. Willesden Green Redevelopment Project
Brent Council is considering ways to improve the Willesden Green Library Centre. Regular users of the Willesden Green Library Centre were invited to hear the council’s proposals and have a say on any possible improvement plans for the centre through two focus group sessions. The focus group sessions took place on Monday, 21 February and Monday, 28 February 2011.

33. Proposed changes in the provision of residential short break services
The council has to achieve a £37 million savings to balance budgets because of significant central government cuts. In order to achieve this, each department within the council was asked to identify savings. The children and families department proposed closure of one of the two short break units for children with disabilities. The consultation was with parents and carers of current users of the units concerned as well as organisations in Brent that support disabled children and their families and with families who may be eligible to use the unit.

34. Brent Arts & Festival Strategy – Consultation
Brent has developed a draft strategy for Arts & Festivals. Results from this consultation helped to shape the final strategy and informed the decision of Brent Council’s Executive in June 2011.

35. Brent Dog Control Order Consultation
Brent Council Parks Service has a legal duty to consult on the proposed dog control orders before they are introduced. The formal consultation ran from Monday, 28 March 2011 until Friday, 29 April 2011.

Conclusions
An overview of 35 consultations, undertaken between January 2010 and March 2011, is given in this document. An additional 54 consultations, undertaken by Brent council transportation unit, (relating to local road and traffic management schemes), is not included. Two consultations were undertaken in partnership with external
organisations, e.g. the draft national waste water plan with DEFRA and the draft tobacco control strategy with NHS Brent. During the same period there were 20 area consultative forum meetings and 20 service user consultative forum meetings. The Brent Citizens’ Panel was used on 14 occasions. Comprehensive details of consultations can be obtained from the Brent Consultation Tracker website – [www.brent.gov.uk/consultation](http://www.brent.gov.uk/consultation)

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