

2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW

12 February 2026
Our ref: 16513185

Thank you for your request received on 29 January 2026, for the following information:

I am writing to request information regarding how Barnet Borough Council records, monitors, and reports Judicial Review activity and associated legal risk in relation to its SEND-related statutory duties.

Please provide the following information:

1. Pre-Action Protocol correspondence

- The number of Pre-Action Protocol letters (Letter before Action) received by the Council in the last 12 months in relation to SEND matters.

- For the avoidance of doubt, this should include Pre-Action Protocol correspondence relating to all SEND duties, including but not limited to:

- * Children and Families Act 2014**
- * Education Act 1996**
- * Equality Act 2010**
- * Human Rights Act 1998**

2. Internal tracking and escalation

- Whether SEND-related Pre-Action Protocol correspondence and/or Judicial Review risk is:

- logged or tracked centrally by the Council to ensure compliance;**
- recorded as a legal or organisational risk; and**
- escalated to executive officers and/or elected Members.**

We have processed this request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Response

The council holds the information requested and the answers to your questions are below

1. Pre-Action Protocol correspondence

- The number of Pre-Action Protocol letters (Letter before Action) received by the Council in the last 12 months in relation to SEND matters.

- For the avoidance of doubt, this should include Pre-Action Protocol correspondence relating to all SEND duties, including but not limited to:

*** Children and Families Act 2014**

*** Education Act 1996**

*** Equality Act 2010**

*** Human Rights Act 1998**

The Council does not hold this information in a centralised or reportable format. Pre-Action Protocol letters relating to SEND may be received by different teams or individual officers across the Education, SEND, and Legal Services functions. There is no single central register, and therefore the Council is unable to provide an exact number of Pre-Action Protocol letters received over the last 12 months.

2. Internal tracking and escalation

- Whether SEND-related Pre-Action Protocol correspondence and/or Judicial Review risk is:

- logged or tracked centrally by the Council to ensure compliance;

- recorded as a legal or organisational risk; and

No. SEND-related Pre-Action Protocol correspondence is not routinely recorded as a legal or organisational risk on a central corporate risk register.

- escalated to executive officers and/or elected Members.

No formal or automatic escalation process exists. The SEND team manages these matters in the first instance. HB Legal becomes involved in more complex cases, but this does not constitute routine escalation to executive officers or elected Members.

Further information

If you are interested in the data that the council holds you may wish to visit Open Barnet, the council's data portal. This brings together all our published datasets and other information of interest on one searchable database for anyone, anywhere to access. <http://open.barnet.gov.uk/>

Advice and Assistance : Direct Marketing

If you are a company that intends to use the names and contact details of council officers (or other officers) provided in this response for direct marketing, you need to be registered with the Information Commissioner to process personal data for this purpose. You must also check that the individual (whom you wish to contact for direct marketing purposes) is not registered with one of the Preference Services to

prevent Direct Marketing. If they are you must adhere to this preference.

You must also ensure you comply with the Privacy Electronic and Communications Regulations (PECR). For more information follow this Link www.ico.org.uk

For the avoidance of doubt the provision of council (and other) officer names and contact details under FOI does not give consent to receive direct marketing via any media and expressly does not constitute a 'soft opt-in' under PECR.

Your rights

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review within the next 40 working days by writing to the Information Management Team at: foi@barnet.gov.uk. Or by post to Records & Information Management Service, Assurance Group, London Borough of Barnet, 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW

If, having exhausted our review procedure, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you will have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF (telephone: 0303 123 1113; website www.ico.org.uk). There is no charge for making an appeal.