



Assurance Group
London Borough of Barnet,
2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale,
London NW9 4EW
5 July 2019
Our ref: 5428828

Thank you for your request received on 1 July 2019, for the following information:

I would like to make the following request for information:

- 1. Please state whether you have used the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to restrict the distribution of free printed matter (leafleting). If so, please state the cost of obtaining a leafleting licence. Please state whether you apply these restrictions to small local arts and community groups (for example a local theatre or arts group).**
- 2. Please state whether there are any additional restrictions in your town or city centre on leafleting on behalf of religious/charity/political groups.**
- 3. Please state whether there are public open-air areas within your city or town centre which are owned and controlled by private companies (for example, a square or a park). If possible, please state the number of these areas. Please state whether you are aware of any restrictions in these areas upon freedom of speech or association (for example, restrictions on leafleting, political demonstrations, gathering in groups, charity fundraising, or on megaphones or amplification).**
- 4. Please state whether you have taken down or issued warnings for posters put up by community/religious/charitable/political groups, or for local events. Please give a list of all such posters taken down in the past year. Please provide as much detail as is possible (eg, the name of the community group concerned, and the action taken).**
- 5. Please state whether there is a free public noticeboard within your town or city centre where people can put up posters.**
- 6. Please state whether your council has an area in the town centre where people could put up a temporary stall (for example, to campaign on a political cause). Would a fee be payable to the council for this? (and if so, how much?).**

We have processed this request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Response

I am writing to inform you that we have searched our records and although we hold some of the information requested, some is not held by London Borough of Barnet.

We have provided answers to your request below showing where we do not hold the information requested.

I would like to make the following request for information:

1. Please state whether you have used the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to restrict the distribution of free printed matter (leafleting). If so, please state the cost of obtaining a leafleting licence. Please state whether you apply these restrictions to small local arts and community groups (for example a local theatre or arts group).

No we have not and I can also confirm that Regulatory Services have not taken any such action to restrict this type of activity.

2. Please state whether there are any additional restrictions in your town or city centre on leafleting on behalf of religious/charity/political groups.

No I am not aware of any such restrictions.

3. Please state whether there are public open-air areas within your city or town centre which are owned and controlled by private companies (for example, a square or a park). If possible, please state the number of these areas. Please state whether you are aware of any restrictions in these areas upon freedom of speech or association (for example, restrictions on leafleting, political demonstrations, gathering in groups, charity fund-raising, or on megaphones or amplification).

Not that can be ascertained.

4. Please state whether you have taken down or issued warnings for posters put up by community/religious/charitable/political groups, or for local events. Please give a list of all such posters taken down in the past year. Please provide as much detail as is possible (eg, the name of the community group concerned, and the action taken).

Regulatory Services have not taken down or taken any action against fly posters. We would intervene and either stop or take down/ remove anything that incites racial hatred or hate crime.

5. Please state whether there is a free public noticeboard within your town or city centre where people can put up posters.

None as far as I can ascertain.

6. Please state whether your council has an area in the town centre where people could put up a temporary stall (for example, to campaign on a political cause). Would a fee be payable to the council for this? (and if so, how much?).

We utilise legislation under the London Local Authorities Act 1990 and Highways Act to licence stalls, tables and chairs and advertising "A" boards. If these were

applicable in this case there would be a charge in line with our fee schedule which can be found on-line.

Regulatory Services issue licences for street trading and tackle unauthorised street trading / obstructions on the highway. It would very much depend upon the circumstances and detail of the proposed activities as to whether such a stall would be granted a licence. We suggest that applicants contact the Licensing team in the first instance to discuss the application. Fees are charged in line with our advertised rates.

Pavement displays are allowed and are licensed using street trading legislation:

<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/licences-permits-and-registrations/trading-licences/street-trading-licence>

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 Information Management Team (FOI) 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.