



London Borough of Barnet,  
2 Bristol Avenue,  
Colindale,  
London NW9 4EW  
30 July 2019  
Our ref: 5476929

Thank you for your request received on 18 July 2019, for the following information:

**Can you confirm whether you offered or are offering a School Uniform Grant (as detailed in the Education Act 1980) to eligible families in the following financial years?**

**2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20**

**Where the answer is yes, can you please confirm for each of those years a) how many grants were paid, and b) the total sums paid out**

**If there is a standard rate, can you please confirm this for each of the years given for a) primary schools and b) secondary school pupils**

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

## **Response**

The council holds the information requested and it is attached/ the answers to your questions are below

***Can you confirm whether you offered or are offering a School Uniform Grant (as detailed in the Education Act 1980) to eligible families in the following financial years?***

***2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20***

***Where the answer is yes, can you please confirm for each of those years a) how many grants were paid, and b) the total sums paid out***

***If there is a standard rate, can you please confirm this for each of the years given for a) primary schools and b) secondary school pupils***

The council provides help to buy school uniform from the Mayor's Benevolent Fund. The assistance is intended to be a contribution to the cost involved. For a number of years, uniform grants have been restricted to children aged 11+ moving up to, or changing, secondary school. A number of secondary schools now provide assistance with uniform to eligible parents, funded from their pupil premium/delegated budget. Uniform grants from the benevolent fund exclude pupils attending those particular schools, a policy decision that to an extent explains the reduction in the number of such grants in recent years shown below.

To qualify for a benevolent fund grant, applicants must have been resident in the borough for at least a year and be in receipt of an income-related benefit.

The number and value of uniform grants from the benevolent fund between 2014/15 and 2018/19 is as follows:

2014/15 - 36 awards totalling £1,535  
2015/16 - 23 awards totalling £1,500  
2016/17 - 17 awards totalling £1,005  
2017/18 - 19 awards totalling £1,215  
2018/19 - 23 awards totalling £1,760

Uniform grants are now capped at £100.

Decisions have yet to be made on the majority of uniform grant applications in 2019/20.

### **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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.ico.org.uk)). There is no charge for making an appeal.