

1st floor
NLBP
1 August 2019
Our ref: 5436128

Thank you for your request received on 3 July 2019, for the following information:

I contend that the PCN should not have been issued because the officer was not wearing uniform.

I require any evidence to refute my assertion. I require full details of what the proper uniform for a Barnet enforcement officer should be, and a satisfactory explanation as to why this important information is not published on the parking pages of the Barnet Council website.

The Authority have not complied with Section 76 (3) of the Traffic Management Act 2004 because the Authority have not issued guidelines pertaining to the uniform Barnet CEO's must wear when exercising their specified functions as so required.

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

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There is no longer any specific requirement for a Civil Enforcement Officer (CEO) uniform, only that an officer's clothing must be distinctive, therefore there is no prescriptive standard uniform for Civil Enforcement Officers and it does vary across different Local Authorities. Some retain the traditional, formal uniform with shirt, collar, tie, peaked hat combinations, whereas others have adopted a more modern, less formal approach with polo shirts, baseball caps etc.

The legislation states that Civil Enforcement Officers should be in uniform when carrying out their duties and that their uniform should be as determined by the enforcing authority. For the Barnet contract, the uniform we provide CEOs consists of dark navy patrol trousers, blue polo shirts, navy softshell patrol jackets, navy anoraks, a baseball cap and beanie hat. The jackets have distinctive reflective Hi-Viz stripes on them, the shirts, jackets and hats all have the Barnet Council and NSL logos visible to members of the public. Mobile CEOs will wear biker jackets and trousers and will wear a yellow hi viz vest which has the Barnet Council and NSL logo. All of the upper garments have tabs for epaulettes to be worn

Depending on the weather, CEOs may wear either the softshell jacket or anorak, or in warm dry weather, a jacket may not be worn and the polo shirt is the visible outer garment. Regardless of which upper garment is visible, epaulettes must be worn and the CEO number must be visible when carrying out enforcement duties. There is no longer any legal requirement to wear a hat when carrying out an enforcement action.

There is no legal requirement for the uniform of a CEO to be stated on a Local Authority website nor to publish guidelines on said uniform requirements.

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.