

5 August 2019
Our ref: 5491860

Thank you for your request received on 24 July 2019, for the following information:
Dear sir/madam,

I am writing to you under the freedom of information request act 2000 to request the following information from you:

How many looked after children are the local authority responsible for?

How many of these children have a diagnosis of autism?

How many of these children have a diagnosis of attachment disorder?

How many of these children have a diagnosis of both?

How many of these children have been assessed for Autism?

Thank you for your time, I look forward to your response.

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

Response

1. How many looked after children are the local authority responsible for?

338

2. How many of these children have a diagnosis of autism?

Please see below

3. How many of these children have a diagnosis of attachment disorder?

Please see below

4. How many of these children have a diagnosis of both?

Please see below

5. How many of these children have been assessed for Autism?

Please see below

In respect of your recent enquiry for information under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, the exact information that you asked for cannot be provided within the statutory 18-hour limit as it is not collated in the format requested. In order to complete the request, we would need to read each Looked After Child's (LAC) detailed Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Disabilities case notes for those with an Education Health and Care Plan and those who may be receiving SEN Support. We would then need to further check each case for previous assessments where a LAC may have a diagnosis of autism or attachment disorder but without a designated special educational need. We estimate this would take approximately 10 minutes per case.

Therefore, 388 (cases) x 10 (minutes) = 3,880 minutes (65 hours). We have therefore decided to refuse your request, please see Refusal notice (Section 12) below.

Refusal Notice

Section 12 of FOIA states that the council does not have to comply with a request for information if the cost of compliance exceeds the appropriate limit of £450 calculated at £25 per hour with a limit of 18 hours. The appropriate limit relates strictly to the process of determining whether the information is held; locating, retrieving and extracting the information, or a document containing it.

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.