

Assurance Group
London Borough of Barnet,
2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale,
London NW9 4EW
30 August 2019
Our ref: 5576577

Thank you for your request received on 27 August 2019, for the following information:

We would like to submit the following Freedom of information request:

1. Is hate crime included in the council's current Community Safety plan?

* Yes

* No

* Don't know

* If Yes can you send us a pdf copy of the Community Safety plan?

2. Does the council have a separate hate crime plan/strategy?

* Yes

* No

* Don't know

* If yes can you send us a pdf copy of the hate crime plan/strategy?

3. Does the council have a designated hate crime lead?

* Yes

* No

* Don't know

* If yes ' can you provide contact details so we can contact them.

4. Does the council service facilitate or take part in any hate crime forums?

* Yes

* No

* Don't know

* If yes ' can you list the names of the hate crime forums that the council service facilitates or takes part in.

5. Does the police service have a designated hate crime information page on its website?

Yes

No

Don't know

If yes ' please can you provide the URL link?

6. Does the council service have access to hate crime resources?

* Yes

* No

* Don't know

* If yes ' please can you send us pdf copies of the resources?

7. Does the council service refer victims of hate crime to independent advice and support services?

* Yes

* No

* Don't know

* If yes ' can you provide a list of independent advice and support services, the police service refers to.

8. Is the council planning to participate in National Hate Crime Awareness Week 2019?

* Yes

* No

* Don't know?

* If yes ' can you tell us what the council is planning to do.

9. Has the council participated in pervious National Hate Crime Awareness weeks?

* Yes

* No

* Don't know

* If yes - please can you tick the years that the council service has recently taken part in the national week.

* 2017 2018 .

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:

We would like to submit the following Freedom of information request:

1. Is hate crime included in the council's current Community Safety plan?

Yes Hate crime is included in the Barnet Community Safety Strategy.

* If Yes can you send us a pdf copy of the Community Safety plan?

https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s47729/b_agenda_item5_CS_strategy_update.pdf (see page 13 priority 7)

https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s50743/b_AgendaItem5_Community%20Safety%20Strategic%20Assessment%20Findings.pdf

2. Does the council have a separate hate crime plan/strategy?

* Yes

* If yes can you send us a pdf copy of the hate crime plan/strategy?

https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s50743/b_AgendaItem5_Community%20Safety%20Strategic%20Assessment%20Findings.pdf

3. Does the council have a designated hate crime lead?

* Yes

MOPAC funding has allowed Barnet Community Safety Team to commission Barnet Mencap as the Lead to facilitate the Hate Crime awareness partnership work.

Reshma Hirani, Hate Crime Co-ordinator, Barnet Mencap
reshma.hirani@barnetmencap.org

4. Does the council service facilitate or take part in any hate crime forums?

* Yes

*** If yes ' can you list the names of the hate crime forums that the council service facilitates or takes part in.**

The Hate Crime Forum is a meeting that is held each quarter at Barnet Mencap's office. It is an opportunity for representatives of each of the Hate Crime Reporting Centres, representatives of other voluntary and community organisations who are concerned with community safety, safeguarding and well-being and the police to come together to discuss hate crime issues in Barnet. Members can raise concerns, share resources and draw on skills and knowledge of partners. It also gives members an opportunity to provide feedback to Barnet Council's Community Safety Team.

The first forum in 2018 took place on 20th April and included an introduction from Victim Support, a presentation from Barnet Council Engagement Group on their role within the community, a presentation by Inclusion Barnet on the People's Choice Safe Places Scheme and a focus on disability hate crime and the project Communications Campaign.

The second forum was on 27th July 2018 and included introductions from Hft and Community Barnet and focused on faith and religious hate crime with presentations from Tell Mama and Community Security Trust. The third forum was on 6th December 2018 and included a presentation by Inclusion Barnet on the conclusion of the People's Choice project and a focus on the implementation of the Victim Support Survey and work with the Police in 2019.

In addition, on Friday 19th October, the Barnet Multifaith Forum supported a key event at the Islamic Association of North London in North Finchley, highlighting the importance of Barnet's many faiths and cultures coming together to speak up against hate crime.

5. Does the police service have a designated hate crime information page on its website?

Yes

If yes ' please can you provide the URL link ?

<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/news/could-you-be-hate-crime-reporting-champion>

<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/community/community-safety/hate-crime>

<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/directories/hate-crime-reporting-centres?postcode=N20%20EJ&radius=5&proximity=nearest>

An example of one of the Hate Crime reporting centres in Barnet:

<https://www.barnetmencap.org.uk/what-we-offer/hate-crime/hate-crime-reporting/>

6. Does the council service have access to hate crime resources?

* Yes

*** If yes ' please can you send us pdf copies of the resources?**

<http://report-it.org.uk/downloads>

7. Does the council service refer victims of hate crime to independent advice and support services?

* Yes

*** If yes ' can you provide a list of independent advice and support services, the police service refers to.**

This is on a case by case basis depending on the specific needs. Two examples of agencies providing advice services to which referrals are made would be Victim Support and Barnet Mencap.

8. Is the council planning to participate in National Hate Crime Awareness Week 2019?

* Yes

*** If yes ' can you tell us what the council is planning to do.**

Last year we held a number of awareness-raising events across the borough. Barnet Council and the Metropolitan Police teamed up with Barnet Mencap, Victim Support and other community organisations including Community Barnet, Inclusion Barnet, Community Security Trust and Barnet Multifaith Forum to raise awareness around the reporting of hate crime.

At locations across the borough staff and volunteers talked to members of the public about identifying hate crime and the ways in which it can be reported to the Police. There was information about Barnet's Hate Crime Reporting Centres, where vulnerable adults can get support if they need assistance to speak up about hate crime. Over 250 people signed up to become Hate Crime Reporting Champions, pledging to report hate crime if they witness it. This will help the Police and Community Safety Teams target their resources and prevent hate crime from happening. Similar activity is planned for the 2019 Hate Crime awareness week.

9. Has the council participated in previous National Hate Crime Awareness weeks?

* Yes

*** If yes - please can you tick the years that the council service has recently taken part in the national week.**

- 2017
- 2018 .

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.