



London Borough of Barnet,
2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale,
London NW9 4EW
8 October 2019
Our ref: 5680664

Thank you for your request received on 7 October 2019, for the following information:

Dear FOI team,

This is an information request relating to celebrities turning on Christmas lights.

Please could you include the following information:

- ☐ **The amount spent by the council on celebrities to turn on Christmas lights in 2016-2017, 2017-2018 and 2018-2019.**
- ☐ **The name of any celebrity who turned on Christmas lights for the council in 2016-2017, 2017-2018 and 2018-2019.**

A celebrity excludes council employees or elected officials who work for the council such as the Mayor, Councillors Etc.

I would prefer an email response, but will gladly accept letters to the address below.

Please acknowledge receipt of this information request as soon as possible.

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

Please could you include the following information:

- ☐ ***The amount spent by the council on celebrities to turn on Christmas lights in 2016-2017, 2017-2018 and 2018-2019.***
- ☐ ***The name of any celebrity who turned on Christmas lights for the council in 2016-2017, 2017-2018 and 2018-2019.***

A celebrity excludes council employees or elected officials who work for the council such as the Mayor, Councillors Etc.

The lights are switched by the Mayor without a fee.

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.