

8 November 2019

Our ref: 5764068

Thank you for your request received on 16 September 2019, for the following information:

RE: ENF/0157/19

I therefore require you provide the following information to me, within the next twenty (20) working days, pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and / or Barnet Council's administrative law obligations to provide reasons in relation to planning matters:

- 1. Confirmation of whether or not Barnet Council has contacted the freeholder of the Property in relation to this matter;**
- 2. Confirmation of whether or not Barnet Council has contacted other affected properties in the immediate vicinity;**
- 3. Confirmation of whether or not Barnet Council has taken a decision on whether to open an investigation in relation to this matter;**
- 4. If the answer to (3) is positive, what that decision is and why you have failed to communicate it to me;**
- 5. If the answer to (3) is negative, why Barnet Council has not taken a decision (including a formal statement of the reasons);**
- 6. The name(s) of any Barnet Council employees and / or councillors who have been personally involved in any of the above decisions or decisions not to make a decision; and**
- 7. Confirmation of whether any such persons have declared any personal, business or political interests in relation to this matter.**

We have processed this request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Response

I can confirm that London Borough of Barnet holds the information you requested. However, we consider that the following exceptions apply to some of the information requested. We consider that Regulation 6(1)(b) applies to the information requested because the information requested is already publicly available and easily

accessible.

RE: ENF/0157/19

1. Confirmation of whether or not Barnet Council has contacted the freeholder of the Property in relation to this matter;

Yes

2. Confirmation of whether or not Barnet Council has contacted other affected properties in the immediate vicinity;

No, This is not usual practice nor have we been contacted by any other neighbours.

3. Confirmation of whether or not Barnet Council has taken a decision on whether to open an investigation in relation to this matter;

An investigation is open under ref ENF/0157/19.

The update on the enforcement cases can also be obtained on the link below:

<https://publicaccess.barnet.gov.uk/online-applications/simpleSearchResults.do?action=firstPage>

4. If the answer to (3) is positive, what that decision is and why you have failed to communicate it to me;

No formal decision has been taken. It is not uncommon for planning enforcement investigations to take a long period (years) to resolve. When a decision is made a report justifying the decision is made.

5. If the answer to (3) is negative, why Barnet Council has not taken a decision (including a formal statement of the reasons);

N/A

6. The name(s) of any Barnet Council employees and / or councillors who have been personally involved in any of the above decisions or decisions not to make a decision; and

James Gould (Planning Enforcement Officer) / Iain Sutherland-Thomas (Planning Enforcement Manager)

7. Confirmation of whether any such persons have declared any personal, business or political interests in relation to this matter.

No personal, business or political interests have been made in relation to this matter.

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.