



Assurance Group
London Borough of Barnet,
2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale,
London NW9 4EW
3 December 2019
Our ref: 5752372

Thank you for your request received on 28 October 2019, for the following information:

Included in the constitution at Article 9 Chief Officers is:

Officers should ensure that delegated powers are exercised in accordance with relevant Council policies and procedures and all decisions with a value of £50,000 or more made by officers under delegated powers should be listed in writing and a copy of the list for each Department produced to the Chief Executive and the Leader on the 30th September and 31st March of each year.

Can I please have a copy of these lists for 31 March 2016, 30 September 2016, 31 March 2017 and 30 September 2017.

Also included in the constitution at Article 11 Finance, Contracts, and Legal Matters is:

Record of Sealing of Documents

An entry of the sealing of every deed or document to which the Common Seal has been affixed shall be made by the Head of Governance (or duly authorised deputy) in a book or electronic record to be provided for the purpose.

Can I also have a copy of the entries in the book or electronic record above for the calendar years 2016, 2017, and 2018 and up until 26 October, 2019.

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

Response

Included in the constitution at Article 9 Chief Officers is:

Officers should ensure that delegated powers are exercised in accordance with relevant Council policies and procedures and all decisions with a value of £50,000 or more made by officers under delegated powers should be listed in writing and a copy of the list for each Department produced to the Chief Executive and the Leader on the 30th September and 31st March of each year.

Can I please have a copy of these lists for 31 March 2016, 30 September 2016, 31 March 2017 and 30 September 2017.

We consider that the absolute exemption set out in Section 21 (Information accessible by other means) applies to the information requested because the information requested is already reasonably accessible elsewhere.

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/mgDelegatedDecisions.aspx?XXR=0&&DR=31%2f03%2f2016-28%2f10%2f2019&ACT=Find&RP=0&K=0&V=0&DM=683O&HD=0&DS=2&Next=true&NOW=021219165054&META=mgdelegateddecisions>

And the decisions below taken by the Deputy Chief Executive are available at:

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/mgDelegatedDecisions.aspx?XXR=0&&DR=31%2f03%2f2016-28%2f10%2f2019&ACT=Find&RP=0&K=0&V=0&DM=397O&HD=0&DS=2&Next=true&NOW=021219170051&META=mgdelegateddecisions>

Also included in the constitution at Article 11 Finance, Contracts, and Legal Matters is:

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As no reply has been received to the request for clarification we are refusing your request under section 12 because we estimate that compliance with your request will exceed the "appropriate limit" under section 12. The appropriate limit is £450 which is equivalent to 18 hours at £25 per hour. The per hour figure is set by Regulations rather than actual salary paid to any officers handling requests. The appropriate limit includes the time it will take the council to discover if it holds the information requested, to locate it, extract it and collate it as well as putting it into any particular format requested by the requester.

There are thousands of records to be searched to extract the data at least half of which are not held electronically. It would take approximately 67 hours to extract the data (redaction time not being included in this calculation).

Advice and Assistance

If there are specific records that you are seeking I would be glad to search for them and if not exempt under s.40 to provide them to you.

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.