

8 January 2020
Our ref: 5861132

Thank you for your request received on 5 December 2019, for the following information:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from your Council Tax department:

- 1. How many households in your local authority area made an unsuccessful claim for a disabled band reduction on their council tax bill during the 2018/19 tax year?**
- 2. How many households in your local authority area made a successful claim for a disabled band reduction on their council tax bill during the 2018/19 tax year?**
- 3. Including any successful claims made during the 2018/19 tax year, how many households in your local authority area were successfully claiming a disabled band reduction on their council tax bill as of 5 April 2019?**
- 5. How many households in your local authority area paid council tax during the 2018/19 tax year?**
- 6. What is/are your policy/policies in relation to backdating a successful claim for a disabled band reduction to a council tax bill?**
- 7. What methods (such as online or by post) do you use to make residents in your local authority area aware of the existence of the disabled band reduction to a council tax bill?**

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

Response

I am writing to inform you that we have searched our records and although we hold some of the information requested, some is not held by London Borough of Barnet due to restrictions in our reporting system.

We have provided answers to your request below showing where we do not hold the information requested.

- 1. How many households in your local authority area made an unsuccessful claim for a disabled band reduction on their council tax bill during the 2018/19 tax year?***

Not Held.

2. How many households in your local authority area made a successful claim for a disabled band reduction on their council tax bill during the 2018/19 tax year?

This information is not held, but can confirm that as at 03 February 2018 there were 539 households receiving the reduction and as at 30 March 2019 there were 561 households.

3. Including any successful claims made during the 2018/19 tax year, how many households in your local authority area were successfully claiming a disabled band reduction on their council tax bill as of 5 April 2019?

563.

5. How many households in your local authority area paid council tax during the 2018/19 tax year?

The number of dwellings on the Council Tax Valuation List is 151,848.

6. What is/are your policy/policies in relation to backdating a successful claim for a disabled band reduction to a council tax bill?

Each case is dealt with on it's on merits and if satisfactory proof is received the reduction would be backdated.

7. What methods (such as online or by post) do you use to make residents in your local authority area aware of the existence of the disabled band reduction to a council tax bill?

Online.

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.