



London Borough of Barnet,
2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale,
London NW9 4EW
10 January 2020
Our ref: 5867432

Thank you for your request received on 9 December 2019, for the following information:

How many highways in the London Borough of Barnet which have had carriageway resurfacing carried out in the last five years, have now or are scheduled to undergo large scale excavation road works as part of the Affinity Water Lead Replacement Programme?

Why did the council not use its powers under section 58/58a New road and Street Work Act 1991 to prevent the damage to these recently resurfaced roads? If the council did exercise these powers, how many roads and what was the criteria for exercising this authority?

What was the original cost of carrying out the resurfacing work on roads which have now been dug up or are scheduled to be dug up as part of the Affinity Water Lead Replacement Programme?

Which road had the shortest time between being fully resurfaced by the London Borough of Barnet and then the Affinity Water Lead Replacement Programme starting on that particular road? How many months was this interval period?

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

Response

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.

We have calculated that it will take approx 50 hours to comply with your request. Our calculation is as follows:

LB Barnet have undertaken carriageway resurfacing on approximately 300 roads in 5 years.

To check how many have undergone, or are scheduled to undergo large scale excavation road works as part of the Affinity Water Lead Replacement Programme, LB Barnet Highways would be required to cross check each road resurfaced against the New Roads and Street Works permit database, for permits granted to Affinity Water.

These checks take approximately 10 minutes per resurfaced road equating to 50 hours of total work time. We have to look at 300 roads and we estimate it will take 10 minutes per file which totals 50 hours .

Advice and Assistance

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 we are required to provide the requester with some advice and assistance as to how they could resubmit a refined request. You could consider reducing the number of years, or specific roads only, your request covers to one year to bring the request within 18 hours.

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.