

4 February 2020
Our ref: 6040788

Thank you for your request received on 4 February 2020, for the following information:

I am currently doing some research in regards to public sector security and under the Freedom of Information Act would be grateful if you could supply the details on the following points:

- 1. Which Web Filtering Solution do you currently have implemented at the local authority?**
- 2. Do you use a different solution for your schools, corporate and other public services (such as libraries)? Please indicate which solutions do you use.**
- 3. How many users does this support?**
- 4. Who was this purchased through?**
- 5. How much is the current contract value and how many years does this cover?**
- 6. When is the Web Filtering contract due to expire?**
- 7. Who is in charge of reviewing the web filtering contract/solution?**
- 8. Do you use a standalone Filter or is it bundled within product suite?**
- 9. How is the system delivered :**
 - 1. centralised**
 - 2. decentralised**
 - 3. Other (please specify)**
- 10. How is the system deployed:**
 - 1. On premise**
 - 2. Cloud**
 - 3. Hybrid**
- 11. Which monitoring solution do you currently have implemented at the local authority?**

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

Response

I can confirm that London Borough of Barnet holds the information you requested.

However, we consider that the following exemptions apply to some of the information requested. The remaining information is not withheld and is below.

1. Which Web Filtering Solution do you currently have implemented at the local authority?

See Refusal Notice below

2. Do you use a different solution for your schools, corporate and other public services (such as libraries)? Please indicate which solutions do you use.

See Refusal Notice below

3. How many users does this support?

1646

4. Who was this purchased through?

Part of Capita contract <https://open.barnet.gov.uk/dataset/23d3v/customer-and-support-group-csg-contract>

5. How much is the current contract value and how many years does this cover?

6. When is the Web Filtering contract due to expire?

7. Who is in charge of reviewing the web filtering contract/solution?

8. Do you use a standalone Filter or is it bundled within product suite?

See Refusal Notice below

9. How is the system delivered:

1. **centralised**
2. **decentralised**
3. **Other (please specify)**

10. How is the system deployed:

1. **On premise**
2. **Cloud**

3. *Hybrid*

11. Which monitoring solution do you currently have implemented at the local authority?

See Refusal Notice below

Refusal notice

We are applying the absolute exemption Section 31 (1) (a) to the following questions regarding Web, Email, Cloud and security. Q.1,2,5,6,7,8,9,10,11.

We also consider that the qualified exemption set out in Section 31 (Law enforcement) subsection (a) applies to the information requested. Therefore, we have decided to withhold the information.

The information withheld is exempt under section 31 (1) (a). The Act states that the information will be exempt "if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice - (a) the prevention or detection of crime"

We consider that knowledge of the council's IS security provision would allow hackers or others with nefarious intent a head start in illegally accessing the council's systems.

We also consider that disclosure of the requested information would increase the chances of a successful cyber-attack or similar on the council network or systems. Whilst no illegal intent is imported upon the requesters, a response provided to one legitimate requester under the Act is considered to be disclosure to the whole world. We consider in applying this exemption, we have had to balance the public interest in withholding the information against the interest in favour of disclosure.

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Public Interest test

Factors in favour of disclosure

- **Openness and transparency**
- **Knowledge that the council has appropriate security of its information and systems**

Factors in favour of withholding

- **Maintaining the integrity and security of the council's systems**
- **Maintaining the integrity and security of the council's data which includes large volumes of commercially sensitive, personal and sensitive personal data relating to staff and residents**
- **Preventing cyber-attacks and similar against the council systems.**

• **We consider that in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.**

In applying this exemption, we have had to balance the public interest in withholding the information against the interest in favour of disclosure.

These IT services are outsourced to Capita and as the cost information is commercially sensitive we are unable to provide this information.

In terms of security products in use, under Section 31 of the Freedom of Information Act. the Council are exempt under ' Law Enforcement' to disclose information relating to cyber-attacks

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.