



RE Highways Network Management,
Colindale Offices,
2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW
11 February 2020
Our ref: 5998664

Thank you for your request received on 23 January 2020, for the following information:

I would be interested to hear and request this under the Freedom of Information Act:

How much was spent in re-paving the roadway and the significant grass area which has increased the pavement size for no apparent benefit, but decreased the width of the road causing unnecessary traffic congestion and now the implementation of further double yellow lines.

How was this scheme approved to create the wasted pavement at the expense of a busy road.

Similarly how was the widening of the pavement in Barnet High Street approved?

What is the benefits of having a pavement where people can walk 6-8 abreast in an area that is now deserted. Having removed the easy parking area where people could stop for 15-20 minutes and visit the local shops or Banks we are now left with an empty pavement in a deserted High Street where five of the shops corresponding to area you have redeveloped are now empty and three further shops are charity shops. I am absolutely sure that none of the shop keepers, many of them who have been there for decades would have voted for this scheme and

I would again request to understand how much in monetary terms the planning and building of the increased pavement area has cost.

I am at a loss to understand who these schemes get approved and what was the thinking behind this expenditure.

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

Response

The council holds the information requested and the answers to your questions are below

I would be interested to hear and request this under the Freedom of Information Act:

How much was spent in re-paving the roadway and the significant grass area which has increased the pavement size for no apparent benefit, but decreased the width of the road causing unnecessary traffic congestion and now the implementation of further double yellow lines.

The highway works in Mays Lane are not funded by the Council and have been carried out under legal agreement (with the Council) by the Developer, Countryside Properties of the Dollis Valley Estate Regeneration Scheme (see planning details below). The highway works modified (widened) Mays Lane carriageway to facilitate a right turn lane to serve a new vehicular access road into the development. These highway works are fully funded by the Developer.

How was this scheme approved to create the wasted pavement at the expense of a busy road.

This Mays Lane scheme (between Hammond Close and Woodfall Avenue) is part of planning consent obligations for the Developer, Countryside Properties plc, carrying out the Dollis Valley Estate Regeneration Scheme and further to completed legal agreement (Section 278 Highways Act) with the Council, Countryside Properties. The planning application reference number is B/00354/13. Outline planning permission was granted on 01 October 2013 to a hybrid planning application to accommodate up to 631 residential units, replacement community space, new open space and new infrastructure.

Similarly how was the widening of the pavement in Barnet High Street approved, What is the benefits of having a pavement where people can walk 6-8 abreast in an area that is now deserted. Having removed the easy parking area where people could stop for 15-20 minutes and visit the local shops or Banks we are now left with an empty pavement in a deserted High Street where five of the shops corresponding to area you have redeveloped are now empty and three further shops are charity shops. I am absolutely sure that none of the shop keepers, many of them who have been there for decades would have voted for this scheme and I would again request to understand how much in monetary terms the planning and building of the increased pavement area has cost. I am at a loss to understand who these schemes get approved and what was the thinking behind this expenditure.

One of the aims of Chipping Barnet Town Centre Strategy Board, was to create a town centre that was economically, commercially and environmentally viable, to improve the town centre appearance and create a vibrant destination with quality shopping and leisure facilities with high quality public realm.

The High Street scheme has been developed within the constraints and limitations of the site over several years and gone through many various modifications with due consideration and engagement with the various stakeholders and users of the high street in line with the original aim. Any scheme proposal would require and result in compromise as it would not be possible to satisfy the requirements identified by all parties. The impact on loss of parking and traffic was debated in depth during the scheme development. Pay & Display Car Parks are available at The Spires, Stapylton Road and Moxon St. (Moxon St. you can also park free for 1 hr.), pay and display on street parking is also available in surrounding roads such as Union Street, Salisbury Road and on the High Street itself.

In March 2017 an [informal consultation](#) on a proposal to introduce new measures in and around Barnet High Street was undertaken to create a safer environment for all users of the public highway. The proposed measures aimed to provide a more pleasant experience of the High Street and improve pedestrian safety. Following the consultation and specifically consultations and engagement with local interested parties with representation from residents' associations and High Barnet Town Team the proposals were modified and a second consultation in June 2018 was carried out.

Councillors, members of the Town Team and representation from local residents association supported the revised plans which involved widening the footway between the Post Office and The Spires with the aim to create a safer environment for all road users and to enhance

the High Street. The scheme also improves the visibility of adjoining junctions at Union Street and Salisbury Road.

The scheme to widen the footways on Chipping Barnet High St commenced with some preliminary investigatory works in June 19 to allow the design to be finalised and mitigate risks of delay to the main works due to the unforeseen. Main construction works commenced 16th September and were suspended on 1st December due to the Christmas moratorium on works over the Christmas period. The works will resume on 27th January and are expected to last 4-6 weeks to complete the repaving of the eastbound footway area.

Expended costs of the works to date £282,406, funded through Transport for London LIP program.

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.