

Assurance Group London Borough of Barnet, 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, London NW9 4EW 12 February 2020 Our ref: 6035688

Thank you for your request received on 30 January 2020, for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide me with copies of the following: •

Full and up to date list of Ltd companies, businesses and charities that have become recently responsible for paying business rates within your council area between the 15th Jan 2020-31st Jan 2020. I would like to know the full business name and address, along with the type of premises and also the date they became responsible.

I understand that under the Act I am entitled to a response within 20 working days of your receipt of this request. Some parts of the request may be easier to answer than others. Should this be the case, I request that you release information as soon as possible. If my request is denied in whole or in part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act.

I will also expect you to release all non-exempt material. I reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to charge excessive fees. I would prefer to receive the information electronically. If you require any clarification, I expect you to contact me under your section 16 duty to provide advice and assistance if you find any aspect of this FOI request problematic. Please acknowledge receipt of this request, and I look forward to receiving the information in the near future.

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

Response

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide me with copies of the following: •

Full and up to date list of Ltd companies, businesses and charities that have become recently responsible for paying business rates within your council

area between the 15th Jan 2020-31st Jan 2020. I would like to know the full business name and address, along with the type of premises and also the date they became responsible.

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

However, we consider that the absolute exemption set out in Section 21 (Information accessible by other means) applies as the information requested is already reasonably accessible elsewhere.

This information is available on our Open Barnet data portal using the following link:

<u>https://open.barnet.gov.uk/dataset/businessratesregister</u> - this shows occupied properties

<u>https://open.barnet.gov.uk/dataset/empty-commercial-properties</u> - this shows unoccupied properties

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.