

24 February 2020

Our ref: 6073489

**Thank you for your request received on 11 February 2020, for the following information:**

**Please can you answer the following questions: if there is not time available to answer all of the questions, or if some are not possible to answer, please answer those you can in order ' beginning with those at the top of the list first.**

**1a. How many of your employees work with children or vulnerable people (e.g. social workers, or those who work in fostering, education or child and adult care)?**

**1b. How many of your employees who work with children or vulnerable people are 'remote workers' or 'flexible workers' (i.e. they perform some of their duties away from a fixed/office location ' for instance, performing home visits or working from home outside of regular office hours)?**

**All the below questions relate to those employees who work with children or vulnerable people, and are also considered 'remote workers' or 'flexible workers' as identified in questions a. and b. above**

**1c. Do you provide these employees with any of the below devices so that they can perform their jobs outside of the office (indicate all that are applicable)?**

- \* Basic mobile phone**
- \* Smartphone**
- \* Tablet**
- \* Laptop computer**
- \* Desktop computer**

**1d. Are they able to perform the following tasks on these council-provided devices?**

- \* Access centrally stored information on the individuals they are dealing with**
- \* Save information on their cases or specific individuals to the device**
- \* Save information on their cases or specific individuals to central storage that isn't on the council-provided device (e.g. through a VPN connection)**
- \* Communicate with colleagues over email**
- \* Use collaboration tools (e.g. Microsoft Teams, Slack, WhatsApp)**
- \* Communicate with the specific children or vulnerable people they are working with (e.g. over email or instant messaging)**
- \* Communicate with people who work outside the organisation (e.g. contractors or other public services)**



**\* Personal tasks ' e.g. visiting non-work-related websites or accessing personal email accounts**

**1e. How many of these employees have complained to the organisation that they could not perform work they need to on their council-provided device (e.g. because of issues with the device, difficulty accessing information, or a lack of training) in the past 12 months?**

**1f. Do you prevent these employees from using their own personal devices for work-related tasks due to concerns over data privacy?**

**\* Yes, we prevent all tasks**

**\* Yes, we prevent some tasks**

**\* No, but they have to take specific actions ' e.g. installing security on their device, using specific vetted applications**

**\* No**

**\* Don't know**

**1g. Are you aware of any of these employees sharing their personal mobile phone number for work purposes when instructed not to? If possible, how many have done so?**

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.

***1a. How many of your employees work with children or vulnerable people (e.g. social workers, or those who work in fostering, education or child and adult care)?***

Total = 591, 373 are in Family Services and 218 are in Adults and Health

***1b. How many of your employees who work with children or vulnerable people are 'remote workers' or 'flexible workers' (i.e. they perform some of their duties away from a fixed/office location – for instance, performing home visits or working from home outside of regular office hours)?***

All above have the option to work remotely or as part of their role will work away from the office.

***All the below questions relate to those employees who work with children or vulnerable people, and are also considered 'remote workers' or 'flexible workers' as identified in questions a. and b. above***

***1c. Do you provide these employees with any of the below devices so that they can perform their jobs outside of the office (indicate all that are applicable)?***

**\* Basic mobile phone**

**\* Smartphone**

**\* Tablet**

**\* Laptop computer**

**\* Desktop computer**

Yes, staff have access to all options above.



**1d. Are they able to perform the following tasks on these council-provided devices?**

- \* Access centrally stored information on the individuals they are dealing with**
- \* Save information on their cases or specific individuals to the device**
- \* Save information on their cases or specific individuals to central storage that isn't on the council-provided device (e.g. through a VPN connection)**
- \* Communicate with colleagues over email**
- \* Use collaboration tools (e.g. Microsoft Teams, Slack, WhatsApp)**
- \* Communicate with the specific children or vulnerable people they are working with (e.g. over email or instant messaging)**
- \* Communicate with people who work outside the organisation (e.g. contractors or other public services)**
- \* Personal tasks ' e.g. visiting non-work-related websites or accessing personal email accounts**

Yes to all the above

**1e. How many of these employees have complained to the organisation that they could not perform work they need to on their council-provided device (e.g. because of issues with the device, difficulty accessing information, or a lack of training) in the past 12 months?**

Data is not logged, information not held.

**1f. Do you prevent these employees from using their own personal devices for work-related tasks due to concerns over data privacy?**

- \* Yes, we prevent all tasks**
- \* Yes, we prevent some tasks**
- \* No, but they have to take specific actions ' e.g. installing security on their device, using specific vetted applications**
- \* No**
- \* Don't know**

Yes, we prevent some tasks – the council has in place policies for all staff surrounding the use of personal equipment.

**1g. Are you aware of any of these employees sharing their personal mobile phone number for work purposes when instructed not to? If possible, how many have done so?**

There has been no incidents recorded in relation to this.

## **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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.ico.org.uk)). There is no charge for making an appeal.