

31 March 2020 Our ref: 5945264

Thank you for your request received on 9 January 2020, for the following information:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from Barnet council.

I want to know the following:

- 1) The number of properties that are presently long term vacant (over 6 months of vacancy) in the council
- 2) The number of properties that are longer term vacant (over 2 years vacant)
- 3) The number of properties that are over 4 years vacant
- 4) The number of vacant properties that are marked for demolition
- 5) The total number of long term vacant properties for each of the last 5 years. If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

If you can identify any ways that my request could be refined I would be grateful for any further advice and assistance.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me via email or phone and I will be very happy to clarify what I am asking for and discuss the request, my details are outlined below.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to your response. Best wishes,

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

Response

I am writing to inform you that we have searched our records and although we hold some of the information requested, some is not held by London Borough of Barnet, due to restrictions in our reporting system.

We have provided answers to your request below showing where we do not hold the information requested.

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from Barnet council.
I want to know the following:

1) The number of properties that are presently long term vacant (over 6 months of vacancy) in the council

1,663.

2) The number of properties that are longer term vacant (over 2 years vacant)

69.

3) The number of properties that are over 4 years vacant

15.

4) The number of vacant properties that are marked for demolition

Not Held.

5) The total number of long term vacant properties for each of the last 5 years.

2015-16: Not Held. 2016-17: 1,312. 2017-18: 1,406. 2018-19: 1,355. 2019-20: 1,754.

Please note Barnet Council publishes a list of <u>empty commercial properties</u> on our Open Barnet website.

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.