

1 April 2020
Our ref: 6184388

Thank you for your request received on 12 March 2020, for the following information:

Please answer the below under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, within the 20 working day legal limit.

NB all questions about 'schools' means academies, independent schools, free schools and local authority schools.

***1. The number of education psychologists employed centrally by the local authority (not locum education psychologists or private education psychologists paid by the LA) in 2019-20, 2018-19 and 2017-18 (academic years)
AND the amount of money this cost the local authority for each of those years***

***2. The number of education psychologists paid by the local authority who are not employed centrally (so locum education psychologists and private education psychologists) in 2019-20, 2018-19 and 2017-18 (academic years)
AND the amount of money this cost the local authority for each of those years.***

***3. Please state whether your local authority has fully traded services for the non-statutory work done by education psychologists i.e. please state YES or NO that your local authority charges schools for education psychologist work that is not Education Health and Care Plan assessments.
If yes, what year did you fully trade your non-statutory education psychologist services i.e. when did the local authority introduce these charges on schools?
If your local authority has partially traded its education psychologist services, please state what the LA does and does not charge schools for.***

4. Please provide both the total number of all schools in the local authority, and the number of schools in the local authority which bought education psychologist services from the local authority in 2019-20, 2018-19, 2017-18 (academic years).

5. How much did the local authority charge schools for education psychologist services in 2019-20, 2018-19, 2017-18.

6. Can the local authority identify its key priorities and problems regarding education psychologists, and provide any reasons? (e.g. can't recruit because of lack of trainees, schools won't buy our services because of lack of funding etc)

To speed up your answers, please use the attached spreadsheet, which covers questions 1, 2, 4 and 5. Please fill in the green spaces.

If you are pressed for time, make filling out the Excel spreadsheet a priority and leave the remaining questions - thank you. The Excel spreadsheet should be easily completable within the timeframe. Many thanks.

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

Response

NB all questions about 'schools' means academies, independent schools, free schools and local authority schools.

1. The number of education psychologists employed centrally by the local authority (not locum education psychologists or private education psychologists paid by the LA) in 2019-20, 2018-19 and 2017-18 (academic years)

AND the amount of money this cost the local authority for each of those years

Please see attached spreadsheet

2. The number of education psychologists paid by the local authority who are not employed centrally (so locum education psychologists and private education psychologists) in 2019-20, 2018-19 and 2017-18 (academic years)

AND the amount of money this cost the local authority for each of those years.

Please see attached spreadsheet

3. Please state whether your local authority has fully traded services for the non-statutory work done by education psychologists i.e. please state YES or NO that your local authority charges schools for education psychologist work that is not Education Health and Care Plan assessments.

If yes, what year did you fully trade your non-statutory education psychologist services i.e. when did the local authority introduce these charges on schools?

If your local authority has partially traded its education psychologist services, please state what the LA does and does not charge schools for.

No - not all services provided by the LA are statutory, each setting has a yearly planning meeting and other services which are non-statutory are free to schools/ local authority funded, such as crisis support.

4. Please provide both the total number of all schools in the local authority, and the number of schools in the local authority which bought education psychologist services from the local authority in 2019-20, 2018-19, 2017-18 (academic years).

Please see attached spreadsheet

5. How much did the local authority charge schools for education psychologist services in 2019-20, 2018-19, 2017-18.

Please see attached spreadsheet

6. Can the local authority identify its key priorities and problems regarding education psychologists, and provide any reasons? (e.g. can't recruit because of lack of trainees, schools won't buy our services because of lack of funding etc)

This is an opinion, therefore not an appropriate request from an FOI/to be supplied for public information

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.