

London Borough of Barnet, 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, London NW9 4EW 17 April 2020 Our ref: 6251688

Thank you for your request received on 16 April 2020, for the following information:

I am writing under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request information about the following questions regarding your authority:

My questions relate to video conferencing software:

- 1. What video conference solution or solutions do you use, or are planning to use in the coming weeks/months? (Webex, Bluejeans, Google Hangounts, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, other please state)
- 2. If you have considered and chosen not to use any of the above, what reason other than cost made you decide not to use them?
- 3. Have you, or are you planning to use the solution for councillor meetings (closed and/or open to the public)?

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

#### Response

The council holds the information requested and it is attached/ the answers to your questions are below

I am writing under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request information about the following questions regarding your authority:

1. What video conference solution or solutions do you use, or are planning to use in the coming weeks/months? (Webex, Bluejeans, Google Hangounts, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, other - please state)

We are currently using Skype for Business and some staff have begun using Microsoft Teams with a wider rollout being planned for all staff to being within the next month.

2. If you have considered and chosen not to use any of the above, what reason other than cost made you decide not to use them?

We have chosen not to use some of the other tools because of low security or not enough information to make an informed choice if the solution is safe to use.

# 3. Have you, or are you planning to use the solution for councillor meetings (closed and/or open to the public)?

We are investigating Microsoft Teams either Live and/or Web for Councillor Meetings - both closed and open to the public.

#### **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. <a href="http://open.barnet.gov.uk/">http://open.barnet.gov.uk/</a>

### **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 <a href="https://www.ico.org.uk">www.ico.org.uk</a>

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: <a href="mailto:foi@barnet.gov.uk">foi@barnet.gov.uk</a>. 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 <a href="https://www.ico.org.uk">www.ico.org.uk</a>). There is no charge for making an appeal.