



Assurance Group
London Borough of Barnet,
2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale,
London NW9 4EW
28 April 2020
Our ref: 6262788

Thank you for your request received on 17 April 2020, for the following information:

Please provide me with a copy of the agenda (including emails if that was how the meeting was arranged) the notes made at or after the meeting by yourself (or your notetaker if any) and any subsequent emails sent by you to any party appertaining in any way to the meeting.

Please also provide me with all other emails between yourself and Mr Beech from 1 January 2020 to date.

If any emails have been deleted please have them undeleted or recovered from backups.

You may respond by email to this address or by post if you prefer. Feel free to deal with it as business as usual rather than involve the FOI department.

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. However, we consider that the following exemptions apply to some of the information requested. The remaining information is not withheld and is below and attached.

Please provide me with a copy of the agenda (including emails if that was how the meeting was arranged) the notes made at or after the meeting by yourself (or your notetaker if any) and any subsequent emails sent by you to any party appertaining in any way to the meeting.

There was no agenda to this meeting – Nic Beech had just started in his role as Vice Chancellor and the Council's CEO, Mr. Hooton had an introductory meeting to say hello and talk about what our organisations are doing. The Council's CEO meets with partner organisations quite regularly in the borough – the Police, Barnet Hospital, Barnet and Southgate College, Middlesex University and so on – these are not formal meetings with agendas, more an opportunity to catch up. The meeting was also attended by Laura Norton, Corporate Communications and Stakeholder Manager from Middlesex University.

In the meeting with Mr. Beech talked a bit about his career and background and what he saw as the key challenges for the university, Mr Hooton talked about the key priorities that the Council has in the borough. It was said that both our organisations should do more with our teams to understand where there are shared priorities and how we could work together – the one action coming out of the meeting was to arrange for our teams to get together and talk about our organisational strategies. The intention was to do this at some point in the spring, but of course our response to Coronavirus has to a large extent overtaken that, and there is no date in the diary at the moment.

Please also provide me with all other emails between yourself and Mr Beech from 1 January 2020 to date. If any emails have been deleted please have them undeleted or recovered from backups.

Please see attached. Some minor redactions have been made of the names of staff involved in setting up the meeting under s.40(2) third party data. Formal notice below.

We consider that the absolute exemption set out in Section 40 (Personal information) subsection 2 applies to some of the information requested. Therefore, we have decided to withhold that part of the information.

Refusal Notice Section 40(2)

[Part 1 of Schedule 19](#) of the Data Protection Act 2018 amends the personal data exemption under section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000(FOI). These are consequential amendments designed to ensure that the correct provisions of the GDPR and the new Act are referenced instead of the now repealed DPA 1998. They will not fundamentally impact when personal data can, and cannot, be disclosed in response to an FOI request.

Personal Information is governed by the Data Protection Act legislation and is defined as any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ('data subject')". It adds that: an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location number, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person.

The withheld information is exempt because disclosure would contravene the first data protection principle which requires that personal data is processed fairly and lawfully. Disclosure of the requested information would breach this principle and in particular the requirement of fairness.

Because individuals working for the council have a reasonable expectation of privacy and do not expect that the council would disclose their names or contact details in response to a freedom of information request, especially as they are relatively junior and not in public facing roles. The council's redaction policy states that officers' names and contact details under the level of Assistant Director will generally not be released. All of the posts redacted are under the Assistant Director level.

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.