

3 June 2020
Our ref: 6328052

Thank you for your request received on 29 May 2020, for the following information:

- 1) Has anyone requesting a financial assessment (means test for care) either face to face or remotely (e.g by phone or online) between 01.03.2020-29.05.2020 been refused an assessment due to lack of capacity during the Covid-19 pandemic?**
- 2) If so, how many have been refused, and if possible, please could you provide the details of the assessment and grounds on which it/they were refused. (Please do not worry about providing details if it is not possible to do so within a reasonable time frame).**
- 3) What is the maximum weekly amount paid by the council to any individual under the Direct Payment scheme for the care of a relative between 25.12.2019 - 25.02.2020, or any other dates that conform roughly with this time period if the above dates are not possible?**
- 3) What is the maximum weekly amount paid by the council to any individual under the Direct Payment scheme for the care of a relative between 25.02.2020 - 25.04.2020 or any other dates that roughly conform to this period if the above dates are not possible?**

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 because due to a new case management system implemented two years ago, it has not been possible to arrange reporting to the level requested. Some information is available and answered.

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

- 1) Has anyone requesting a financial assessment (means test for care) either face to face or remotely (e.g by phone or online) between 01.03.2020-29.05.2020 been refused an assessment due to lack of capacity during the Covid-19 pandemic?***

Data not held.

- 2) What is the maximum weekly amount paid by the council to any individual under the Direct Payment scheme for the care of a relative between 25.12.2019***

- 25.02.2020, or any other dates that conform roughly with this time period if the above dates are not possible?

see below:

3) What is the maximum weekly amount paid by the council to any individual under the Direct Payment scheme for the care of a relative between 25.02.2020 - 25.04.2020 or any other dates that roughly conform to this period if the above dates are not possible?

For questions 2 & 3 above -

We do not have a way to report easily on whether a Direct Payment is for someone caring for a relative or a Personal Assistant or Homecare worker.

The most expensive DP for both periods is £4,423 per week.

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.