London Borough of Barnet,
2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale,
London NW9 4EW
17 July 2020
Our ref: 6434716

Thank you for your request received on 13 July 2020, for the following information:

I would like to submit a Freedom of Information request.

My submission of this request is to obtain information on the number of individuals that have argued to your council that they are considered a 'freeman'.

**By a 'freeman' I mean using the 'freedom-on-the-land' argument, as outlined here:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freeman_on_the_land.**

It's my understanding that some individuals have used this as a defence to avoid paying fines. If you have the number of people who have used this argument, specifically, as a defence in the last five years, that would be helpful.

If possible, I'd like to receive the number of these applications broken down by the age and gender of the applicants, and in electronic format.

I appreciate your help with this matter.

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 the information you requested is not held by London Borough of Barnet.

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.