

20 August 2020
Our ref: 6470872

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

I refer to my freedom of information request dated 27th June 2020 and headed Controlled Building Works Projects in England and Wales a copy of which is included below. I do not appear to have received a response as I am entitled under the Freedom of Information Act. Please could you ensure that I receive a response within the next 10 days.

If you have any difficulties with my request please email me or give me a call on xxxxx to discuss the matter.

This information is needed to support important building safety research and if I do not receive a response I will have no alternative but to complain to the information commissioner.

I am currently completing a study to understand the numbers of controlled building works projects in England and Wales which have been substantially constructed in recent years but not certified as building regulations compliant. Under the Freedom of Information Act, please provide me with a copy of the following Building Control information relating to Building Control Performance standards to which all Building Control Bodies should adhere and for which I anticipate statistics should be available:

1. How many Building Regulations Applications have been made within the last 10 years* (either Full Plans under Regulation 13 or Building Notices under Reg 14)

- a. Of these, how many have commenced on site.**
- b. Of these, how many have been issued with completion certificates.**

2. Of the total of those commenced but not issued with completion certificates, how many have not been visited within the last 28 days.

3. Of the total of those commenced but not issued with completion certificates, how many have not been visited within the last 3 months.

4. Of the total of those commenced but not visited within the last 3 months, how many do you estimate are complete and/or occupied #.

5. How many convictions have been obtained under section 35 of the Building Act 1984 within the last 10 years*.

6. How many notices under section 36 of the Building Act 1984 have been served within the last 10 years*.

7. How many partly completed works which have been the subject of an initial notice have the Local Authority received following cancellation or lapse of the initial notice during the last 10 years*.

a. Of these, how many have commenced on site.

b. Of these, how many have been issued with completion certificates.

8. Of the total of those commenced but not issued with completion certificates, how many have not been visited within the last 28 days.

9. Of the total of those commenced but not issued with completion certificates, how many have not been visited within the last 3 months.

10. Of the total of those commenced but not visited within the last 3 months, how many do you estimate are complete and/or occupied #.

***If records are not available for the full 10 years please specify the period for which you are providing the information.**

Please provide an approximate estimate if exact figures are not available.

I understand that under the Act I am entitled to a response within 20 working days of your receipt of this request.

If my request is denied in whole or in part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. I will also expect you to release all non-exempt material. I reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to charge excessive fees.

I would prefer to receive the information electronically.

If you require any clarification, I expect you to contact me to provide advice and assistance if you find any aspect of this FOI request problematic.

Please acknowledge receipt of this request, and I look forward to receiving the information in the near future.

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

Response

1. How many Building Regulations Applications have been made within the last 10 years* (either Full Plans under Regulation 13 or Building Notices under Reg 14)

Full Plans received = 6,309

Building Notices received = 9,674

The date range used for the above was 1st August 2010 to 1st August 2020.

2. Of the total of those commenced but not issued with completion certificates, how many have not been visited within the last 28 days.

3. Of the total of those commenced but not issued with completion certificates,

how many have not been visited within the last 3 months.

4. Of the total of those commenced but not visited within the last 3 months, how many do you estimate are complete and/or occupied #.

5. How many convictions have been obtained under section 35 of the Building Act 1984 within the last 10 years.*

6. How many notices under section 36 of the Building Act 1984 have been served within the last 10 years.*

7. How many partly completed works which have been the subject of an initial notice have the Local Authority received following cancellation or lapse of the initial notice during the last 10 years.*

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10. Of the total of those commenced but not visited within the last 3 months, how many do you estimate are complete and/or occupied #.

Refusal Notice

s12 (cost of compliance exceeds appropriate limit)

The information requested cannot be gathered electronically and would require manual compilation. We estimate that compliance with your request would exceed the appropriate time/costs limit under section 12 of the Freedom of information Act 2000. This is currently 18 hours /£450. Section 12 (1) of the FOIA does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the authority estimates that the time or cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit as set out above. 7 bespoke reports would need to be created at a cost of £980.00 to extract the information from our information systems.

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.