

20 August 2020
Our ref: 6469872

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

Freedom Of Information Act 2000: Building Regulations: Uncertified Buildings

As part of our consultation response to the draft Building Safety Bill, I am currently completing a study on behalf of the Fire Safety Action Group 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 2000, 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 readily available:

- 1. How many Building Regulations applications were made between 1st January and 31st December 2019 (either Full Plans under Regulation 13 or Building Notices under Reg 14)**
- 2. How many Building Regulations completion certificates were issued between 1st January and 31st December 2019.**
- 3. How many part completed building regulations applications do you have recorded (complete history for all years) i.e. applications which have commenced on site but have not received a full completion certificate.**
- 4. Of the total of those commenced but not issued with completion certificates, how many have not been visited within the last 28 days.**
- 5. Of the total of those commenced but not issued with completion certificates, how many have not been visited within the last 3 months.**
- 6. Of the total of those commenced but not visited within the last 3 months, how many do you estimate may be complete and/or occupied#.**

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

If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

I understand that under the Act I am entitled to a response I reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information.

Please acknowledge receipt of this request, If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me via email or phone and I will be very happy to clarify what I am asking for and discuss the request, my details are outlined below.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to your response within 20 working days of your receipt of this request.

I would prefer to receive the information electronically.

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

Response

1) How many Building Regulations applications were made between 1st January and 31st December 2019 (either Full Plans under Regulation 13 or Building Notices under Reg 14)

Full Plans received = 373

Building Notices received = 516

2) How many Building Regulations completion certificates were issued between 1st January and 31st December 2019.

603 completion certificates were issued during this period.

3. How many part completed building regulations applications do you have recorded (complete history for all years) i.e. applications which have commenced on site but have not received a full completion certificate.

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

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

6. Of the total of those commenced but not visited within the last 3 months, how many do you estimate may be 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. 4 bespoke reports would need to be created at a cost of £490.00 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.