



Assurance Group  
London Borough of Barnet,  
2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale,  
London NW9 4EW  
15 September 2020  
Our ref: 6569228

Thank you for your request received on 8 September 2020, for the following information:

**I would like to make the following request under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act:**

**Please tell me if any payments have been made to Saracens since April 1st this year, in regard to the £22 million loan agreement made with the club.**

**If so, please list the amounts paid, and when, the purpose of the payments and who approved the payments.**

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 believe that the exemptions detailed below apply to all the information you requested and so we are withholding that information. Please see the Refusal Notice below.

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The council wishes to proactively publish the data at regular intervals and this will commence in the next few months

We consider that the qualified exemption set out in Section 22 subsection 2 (Information intended for future publication) applies to the information requested. Therefore, we have decided to withhold the information.

In applying this exemption, we have had to balance the public interest in withholding the information against the interest in favour of disclosure.

### **Factors in favour of disclosure**

- A legitimate public interest in the expenditure of public funds
- The council's commitment to transparency

### **Factors in favour of withholding**

Recognising the public interest in the information, the intention is now to publish the information at regular intervals on Barnet Open Data.

In all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

### **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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.ico.org.uk)). There is no charge for making an appeal.

