



2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale, NW9 4EW
8 February 2021
Our ref: 6917148

Thank you for your request received on 11 January 2021, for the following information:

Please can you tell me in the last 6 years how many Safeguarding concerns have you had in regards to abuse from members of staff?

How many whistleblowing cases have the council handled in the last 6 years?

**For case that we're up held and fully substantiated, what action was taken to ensure employees,
For example;**

- 1. How many members of staff have been held accountable and appropriate action taken?**
- 2. How many members of staff have been fired due to safeguarding misconduct or whistleblowing concerns / cases?**

Please can you inform me who is responsible for ensuring that the council follow there policies and procedures, to ensure the safety of vulnerable people. (in the last 6 years)

Please can you inform me who is responsible for ensuring that agencies work together in a person or child's centred approach, into investigation of abuse by professionals. (in the last 6 years)

**Please could you clarify the following for me or disagree which ever it may be.
Would a professional / cllr be failing their duty of care if asked to fulfil a certain role in a serious abuse investigation but failed to due to being advised not to by a legal rep. Would this mean he should not have been part of the case at all, due to the fact of personal interest or conflict, meaning this would have been total misconduct.**

Please can you tell me how many children's Aocial workers have been employed by Barnet in the last 6 years?

Please can you tell me the name of the monitoring officer and previous monitoring officers for the last 6 years?

Please can you tell me who the lead L.a.d.o is for Barnet council as I've been made aware it's not shrimatee bizarre anymore. So could you please tell me who is now our local officer?

Can a member of the public whistleblow on the police?

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

Response

Please can you tell me in the last 6 years how many Safeguarding concerns have you had in regards to abuse from members of staff?

See Refusal Notice below

How many whistleblowing cases have the council handled in the last 6 years?

These are reported in the annual Council Anti-Fraud Team (CAFT) Report:

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=144>

For case that we're up held and fully substantiated, what action was taken to ensure employees, For example;

- 1. How many members of staff have been held accountable and appropriate action taken?***
- 2. How many members of staff have been fired due to safeguarding misconduct or whistleblowing concerns / cases?***

See Refusal Notice below

Please can you inform me who is responsible for ensuring that the council follow there policies and procedures, to ensure the safety of vulnerable people. (in the last 6 years)

Adults and Health: everyone in Adults Services is responsible for ensuring that we follow our policies and procedures to ensure the safety of vulnerable people and attend mandatory training on safeguarding. Overall responsibility responsibility for this is held by the Executive Director of Adults and Health - Dawn Wakeling.

Family Services: everyone in Family Services is responsible for ensuring that we follow our policies and procedures to ensure the safety of vulnerable people. Overall responsibility for this is held by the Director of Children's Service which is a Statutory Position. This is currently held by Christopher Munday, Executive Director of Children and Families and previous to this, in the last 6 years, this role was held by Nicola Francis as Director of Family Services.

Please can you inform me who is responsible for ensuring that agencies work together in a person or child's centred approach, into investigation of abuse by professionals. (in the last 6 years)

Ofsted and other regulatory bodies, for example Social Work England hold their members to professional standards and ethics.

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Please could you clarify the following for me or disagree which ever it may be. Would a professional / cllr be failing their duty of care if asked to fulfil a certain role in a serious abuse investigation but failed to due to being advised not to by a legal rep. Would this mean he should not have been part of the case at all, due to the fact of personal interest or conflict, meaning this would have been total misconduct.

This hypothetical question asks for an opinion, and is therefore not a request for recorded information held by the public authority held under the Act. We are therefore unable to assist you further in this regard.

Please can you tell me how many children's social workers have been employed by Barnet in the last 6 years?

186

Please can you tell me the name of the monitoring officer and previous monitoring officers for the last 6 years?

Jessica Farmer, David Tatlow, Davina Fiore, Peter Large

Please can you tell me who the lead L.a.d.o is for Barnet council as I've been made aware it's not shrimatee bizarre anymore. So could you please tell me who is now our local officer?

Shrimatie Bissessar

Can a member of the public whistleblow on the police?

Yes, this request would be for the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC).

Refusal Notice

We are refusing some of your request under section 12 because we estimate that compliance with your request will exceed the "appropriate limit" under section 12. The appropriate limit is £450 which is equivalent to 18 hours at £25 per hour. The per hour figure is set by Regulations rather than actual salary paid to any officers handling

requests. The appropriate limit includes the time it will take the council to discover if it holds the information requested, to locate it, extract it and collate it as well as putting it into any particular format requested by the requester. Please see refusal notices below.

We have calculated that it will take approx 450 hours to comply with your request as this information is not held or reported separately from staff files. Dismissals of this kind are not recorded as 'whistleblowing' but as the action that was reported, this in conjunction with the time taken means our calculation is as follows:

1800 staff files x 15 minutes per file = 450 hours

Under further advice and assistance, we are unable to suggest how you might further narrow down your request to bring it under 18 hours.

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.