

2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale, NW9 4EW
9 February 2021
Our ref: 6932148

Thank you for your request received on 15 January 2021, for the following information:

Please provide the following information in response to my following questions:

- 1. When were the existing street lighting columns installed in N11 area?**
- 2. How was the position of each column determined?**
- 3. Are the street lights intended for the benefit of pedestrians or drivers?**
- 4. What research and due diligence did Barnet Council undertake regarding the welfare of people with disabilities who might be adversely affected by LED lights?**
- 5. Was any consideration given to the affect that bright lights have on the majority of people with autism and others who suffer with severe light sensitivity?**
- 6. When did Barnet Council start replacing the sodium bulbs with LED bulbs in the borough?**
- 7. Since that date, how many complaints about the LED lighting has Barnet Council and/or Bouygues received from residents and/or other parties:**
 - (i) expressing dissatisfaction with the quality of lighting - for any reason?**
 - (ii) expressing dissatisfaction that the LEDs provide poorer lighting conditions than the sodium?**
 - (ii) expressing dissatisfaction that the lights are too bright?**
 - (iii) that the LEDs are floodlighting their property/garden?**
- 8. How many residents have advised that they are being disturbed by unnatural birdsong after sunset and before sunrise?**
- 9. How many columns have been fitted with shields in response to complaints?**
- 10. How many temporary shields have been fitted?**
- 11. What is the cost of one temporary shield?**
- 12. How many permanent shields have been fitted?**

13. What is the cost of one permanent shield?

14. How many complaints have been received that the shields are not sufficient to ameliorate the problems?

15. What was the total cost of replacing the sodium lights in the borough?

16. What was the total cost claimed by Bouygues engineers to fit the LED bulbs?

17. Please provide a copy of the IEC/EN62471 Photobiological Risk Assessment report for the LED luminaires installed in N11.

We have processed this request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Response

The council holds the information requested and the answers to your questions are below.

Please provide the following information in response to my following questions: 1. When were the existing street lighting columns installed in N11 area ?

The exiting street lighting columns in N11 area were installed in 2008/2009.

2. How was the position of each column determined?

Road classification was determined in accordance with relevant BS5489-1 at the time. Having determined the most appropriate lighting class, a calculation was carried out to determine the maximum spacing and optimum location of the lighting columns. This is always subject to site constraints both above and below ground, where variations may be required for each column.

3. Are the street lights intended for the benefit of pedestrians or drivers?

Streetlights are intended for the benefit of both. How is it assessed and calculated within BS5489 depends on traffic and pedestrian use. For residential streets and footpaths, the design typically calculates the amount of light on both the carriageway and footway in illuminance levels.

4. What research and due diligence did Barnet Council undertake regarding the welfare of people with disabilities who might be adversely affected by LED lights?

All designs are carried out in accordance with BS5489-1 using a risk assessed approach detailed within the standard, using a product that is Risk Exempt (RG0), as per BS EN 62471.

5. Was any consideration given to the affect that bright lights have on the majority of people with autism and others who suffer with severe light sensitivity?

As above all designs are conducted in accordance with BS5489-1 standards and associated guidelines. The luminaires chosen are Risk Exempt (RG0), as per BS EN 62471.

6. When did Barnet Council start replacing the sodium bulbs with LED bulbs in the borough?

First Lantern of the PFI LED project was installed on the 27/09/2019.

7. Since that date, how many complaints about the LED lighting has Barnet Council and/or Bouygues received from residents and/or other parties:

(i) expressing dissatisfaction with the quality of lighting - for any reason?

(ii) expressing dissatisfaction that the LEDs provide poorer lighting conditions than the sodium?

(iii) expressing dissatisfaction that the lights are too bright?

(iii) that the LEDs are floodlighting their property/garden?

To date 312 enquiries related to the LED installation programme (160 by email and 152 through phone calls). Most of which have been thoroughly investigated and resolved to the enquirer's satisfaction. To put this in context the programme includes the conversion to LED of a borough wide programme consisting of 29,472 streetlights.

8. How many residents have advised that they are being disturbed by unnatural birdsong after sunset and before sunrise?

6 communications received from residents regarding the above mentioned issue.

9. How many columns have been fitted with shields in response to complaints?

65 columns to date

10. How many temporary shields have been fitted?

13 columns to date

11. What is the cost of one temporary shield?

This information is not held as we are not charged specifically for shields to be fitted and therefore do not hold information on the costs for shields to be supplied and fitted.

12. How many permanent shields have been fitted?

52 Shields and Louvres permanently fitted.

13. What is the cost of one permanent shield?

This information is not held as we are not charged specifically for shields to be fitted and therefore do not hold information on the costs for shields to be supplied and fitted.

14. How many complaints have been received that the shields are not sufficient to ameliorate the problems?

4 ongoing complaints received following the fitting of shields.

15. What was the total cost of replacing the sodium lights in the borough?

The cost of the LED conversion programme is £7.6M.

16. What was the total cost claimed by Bouygues engineers to fit the LED bulbs?

It is anticipated that the final cost will be within the expected sums identified above.

17. Please provide a copy of the IEC/EN62471 Photobiological Risk Assessment report for the LED luminaires installed in N11.

Signify the manufacturers of the LED lanterns have confirmed the luminaires used are classified in the 'exempt' risk category as having no photobiological hazard at all. Risk Exempt (RG0), as per BS EN 62471.

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.