



2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale, NW9 4EW
11 February 2021
Our ref: 6941948

Thank you for your request received on 18 January 2021, for the following information:

From September 1 up to date: Can you please provide (redacted as needed) internal communications/memos/notices/emails/video conference calls , advice, webinars or transcripts of these, etc - From potentially Staff networks, working groups, intranet notices, senior members staff and management, internal recommendations on behalf of senior staff or the organization as a whole, reports, letters, petitions and external communications to senior staff

My main focus is email communication to and from the most senior staff: council leader, deputy leader, Chief Executive, staff and councillors whose portfolios manage heritage - Regarding: Actions, interventions and projects intended to decolonise or address contested legacies and diversity - particularly with regard to named figures who may be problematic colonialism, racism and slavery This could found using key terms: "Decolonising" "Colonialism", "imperialism", "empire", "institutional racism", "white supremacy" "far right"

In particular I would like to know what particular figures or objects in the built environment (statues, road names, building names etc) or council-affiliated museums, have been a focus for review of re-assessment If there is a database of suggested changes from public consultation, could you please also provide this.

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

Response

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

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Using the search terms requested, there were no email communications on the above topics.

In particular I would like to know what particular figures or objects in the built environment (statues, road names, building names etc) or council-affiliated museums, have been a focus for review of re-assessment If there is a database of suggested changes from public consultation, could you please also provide this.

There have been no figures, objects in the built environment or Council-affiliated museums that have been a focus of re-assessment.

There is no database of suggested changes from public consultation in relation to colonialism, racism or slavery.

Further information

The Mayor of London's Commission is looking into these matters as well:
www.london.gov.uk/press-releases/mayoral/mayor-unveils-commission-to-review-diversity

In relation to figures within Barnet's history involved in Slavery, local studies library hold historical records and advise:

James Brydes – the first Duke of Chandos, who controlled the Royal African Company in the 1720s, and used the fabulous wealth he obtained from the slave trade to build a mansion called Canons. The house was in Harrow rather than Barnet, but both names Canons and Chandos occur in Barnet in street names, because the duke was a major landowner. Canons Close (which may have had more to do with the manorial lord the Bishop of London), Chandos Avenue in Whetstone, Chandos Road in East Finchley, and Chandos Way in Golders Green. The only other reference found was that to Reverend Theodore Williams – Vicar of Hendon, but nothing in Barnet is named after him.

Barnet was home to Sir Stamford Raffles and William Wilberforce – both of Mill Hill and advocates of abolition and have Wilberforce Court Wilberforce Road, Raffles House, and Raffles Court, Stamford Court named after them.

Due to the pandemic the Council's output around Black History month was quite limited – a You Tube video about prominent black historical Barnet figures from before the Windrush generation, a couple of online quizzes (pioneering black Britons and black scientists and inventors) and recommended reading list (<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/libraries/search-library-catalogue/reading-recommendations>).

<https://admin.barnet.gov.uk/news/celebrating-black-history-month-barnet>

We maintain Conservation areas, and the character appraisals give details of figures and objects of interest

www.barnet.gov.uk/planning-and-building/conservation-and-heritage

We maintain a local heritage list, which is a list of Barnet's non designated Heritage assets. The list can be found online here: www.barnet.gov.uk/planning-and-building/conservation-and-heritage/locally-listed-buildings (includes lists of statues)

Historic England maintain the nationwide statutory list of designated heritage assets. We do have a list online of those assets which are situated in Barnet, including council owned sites. These lists can be found here: www.barnet.gov.uk/planning-and-building/conservation-and-heritage/statutory-listed-buildings

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.