

2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale, NW9 4EW
9 March 2021
Our ref: 7053624

Thank you for your request received on 23 February 2021, for the following information:

I would be grateful if you could kindly confirm the following information under FOI:

- 1. Number of buildings in Barnet Local Borough that are residential and over 18m**
- 2. Number of buildings in Barnet Local Borough that are non residential and over 18m**
- 3. The number of buildings in Barnet Local Borough that have been identified as having ACM or other combustible external cladding solution over 18m (as defined by the MHLCG)**
- 4. The number of buildings in Barnet Local Borough that have had ACM cladding removed since 2017 that are over 18m.**
- 5. A list of the buildings and their addresses that are over 18m in Barnet Local Borough which have had combustible cladding removed**
- 6. A list of the buildings and their addresses that are over 18m in Barnet Local Borough which have not had combustible cladding removed**

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 consider that the following exemptions apply to some of the information requested. The remaining information is not withheld and is below.

I would be grateful if you could kindly confirm the following information under FOI:

- 1. Number of buildings in Barnet Local Borough that are residential and over 18m***

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- 2. Number of buildings in Barnet Local Borough that are non residential and over 18m***

This information was not in scope of the most recent review and London Borough of Barnet does not have a complete dataset of this information. 3 buildings are known.

3. The number of buildings in Barnet Local Borough that have been identified as having ACM or other combustible external cladding solution over 18m (as defined by the MHLCG)

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4. The number of buildings in Barnet Local Borough that have had ACM cladding removed since 2017 that are over 18m.

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5. A list of the buildings and their addresses that are over 18m in Barnet Local Borough which have had combustible cladding removed

2 - Desmond House and Lark Court

6. A list of the buildings and their addresses that are over 18m in Barnet Local Borough which have not had combustible cladding removed

We consider that the qualified exemption set out in Section 38 (Health and safety) applies. 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.

The public interest test is below:

Factors in favour of disclosure:

Furthering the understanding and participation in the public debate of issues of the day.

Promoting accountability and transparency by public authorities for decisions taken by them.

Promoting accountability and transparency in the spending of public money.

Allowing individuals, companies and other bodies to understand decisions made by public authorities affecting their lives.

Bringing to light information affecting public health and safety.

Factors in favour of withholding:

It is vital that residents are kept fully informed about the safety of their own buildings and we expect you to ensure that this is the case, however we believe there are public safety risks associated with releasing information, such as comprehensive lists, that allows buildings with cladding which is likely to present a hazard to be easily identified. In the absence of evidence other than that provided by MHCLG and advice provided from Cabinet Office we cannot be sure that arson would not be a risk.

We have therefore taken the approach that in requests made under the Freedom of Information Act, it is appropriate to withhold information that could lead to the identification of affected buildings.

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

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.