

9 March 2021  
Our ref: 7022732

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

- 1. Has your council declared a climate emergency and produced an action plan/strategy or policy that covers carbon sequestration and offsetting? If yes, please attached a copy of the policy/strategy or provide a link to the online copy.**
- 2. Have you, within your existing or planned strategies/policies, considered carbon sequestration and offsetting? If yes, please outline those plans not included in question 1 or attach a copy or link to an online copy.**
- 3. What forms of carbon sequestration have you considered, and which have you excluded? What was the basis of that decision?**
- 4. How have you or do you plan to quantify the extent of carbon sequestration required to offset your carbon emissions within the council? Please provide any figures and equations you have used. What was the basis for using those figures/equations?**
- 5. Do you as a council or your contractors use any of the offsetting schemes ie Woodland Trust to offset your carbon emissions? If yes, please list those used.**

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.

- 1. Has your council declared a climate emergency and produced an action plan/strategy or policy that covers carbon sequestration and offsetting? If yes, please attached a copy of the policy/strategy or provide a link to the online copy.***

While Barnet Council has not declared a climate emergency, we are committed to supporting the government's national sustainability ambitions and targets. Barnet

Council are committed to becoming more sustainable and reducing our carbon footprint. This commitment to sustainability can be seen throughout our Long Term Transport Strategy, Growth Strategy, and Air Quality Action Plan.

Please see the following links to these documents:

Long Term Transport Strategy :

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=695&MId=10156&Ver=4>

Growth Strategy:

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=696&MId=9931&Ver=4>

Air Quality Action Plan :

<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/environmental-problems/air-quality/air-quality-action-plan>

**2. Have you, within your existing or planned strategies/policies, considered carbon sequestration and offsetting? If yes, please outline those plans not included in question 1 or attach a copy or link to an online copy.**

Please see the attached Tree Policy. We mention this on the Benefits of Trees infographic chart (Figure 2.1) on Page 6, Page 7 (paragraph 1.14), and Page 18 (paragraph 3.4).

**3. What forms of carbon sequestration have you considered, and which have you excluded? What was the basis of that decision?**

Our tree planting programme, detailed in our Tree Policy, is focused on using tree planting and the borough's natural ecology to manage carbon sequestration. Additionally, we have prioritised the rollout of EV charge points, with over 100 across the borough, and the capacity is set to double over the next year. This will help us to meet the targets, objectives and expectations detailed in our Air Quality Action Plan.

**4. How have you or do you plan to quantify the extent of carbon sequestration required to offset your carbon emissions within the council? Please provide any figures and equations you have used. What was the basis for using those figures/equations?**

The work that the Council carry out on air quality apart from planting trees to absorb pollution is about Nitrogen Dioxide and PM10, not directly CO2 emissions.

**5. Do you as a council or your contractors use any of the offsetting schemes ie Woodland Trust to offset your carbon emissions? If yes, please list those used.**

No.

### 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.