

18 March 2021  
Our ref: 7136408

Thank you for your request received on 16 March 2021, for the following information:

**This request is for the attention of the private residential empty homes team or person. Please note that not all Councils have a designated Empty Homes Officer and therefore please ensure the relevant department is consulted.**

**The relevant department may be named as any of the following:**

- \* Private Sector Housing Officer**
- \* Planning & Enforcement Officer**
- \* Environmental Health Officer**
- \* Environmental Enforcement Officer**
- \* Empty Property Officer**
- \* Housing Development Officer**
- \* Housing Standards Officer**
- \* Council Tax Officers**

**Could you please then provide the following information:**

- 1. Does the council currently use the services of an external tracing agent, research firm or genealogists to assist with finding owners of empty or presumed empty, privately owned residential property?**
- 2. If so, which firm(s) has the council worked with?**
- 3. Please provide the name, email address and direct telephone number of the officer or team that manages or monitors private residential empty homes matters.**

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

## **Response**

***1. Does the council currently use the services of an external tracing agent, research firm or genealogists to assist with finding owners of empty or presumed empty, privately owned residential property?***

No

**2. If so, which firm(s) has the council worked with?**

N/A

**3. Please provide the name, email address and direct telephone number of the officer or team that manages or monitors private residential empty homes matters.**

Q3: Empty Property Team; [emptyproperties@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:emptyproperties@barnet.gov.uk) ; 020 8359 4359

**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.