



London Borough of Barnet,
2 Bristol Avenue
Colindale , NW9 4EW
12 April 2021
Our ref: 7141808

Thank you for your request received on 10 March 2021, for the following information:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

*** What is the average eligible rent for Housing Benefit claims where the claimant resides in exempt supported accommodation and is of working age?**

*** For the above cases, how much of the eligible rent is attributed to 'rent'**

*** For the same cases, how much of the eligible rent is attributed to 'eligible service charges'**

If my request is denied in whole or in part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. I will also expect you to release all non-exempt material. I reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to charge excessive fees.

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

Response

What is the average eligible rent for Housing Benefit claims where the claimant resides in exempt supported accommodation and is of working age?

The average eligible rent is £315.82 per week.

For the above cases, how much of the eligible rent is attributed to 'rent'?

Request refused under section 12, please see below.

For the same cases, how much of the eligible rent is attributed to 'eligible service charges'?

Request refused under section 12, please see below.

We are refusing part of your request under section 12 because we estimate that compliance with your request will exceed the "appropriate limit" under section 12. The appropriate

limit is £450 which is equivalent to 18 hours at £25 per hour. The per hour figure is set by Regulations rather than actual salary paid to any officers handling requests. The appropriate limit includes the time it will take the council to discover if it holds the information requested, to locate it, extract it and collate it as well as putting it into any particular format requested by the requester.

We have calculated it will take approximately 40 hours to comply with your request for a breakdown of the eligible rent, actual rent and eligible service charges. Our reporting tools do not provide this breakdown, therefore manual checking of the claims would be required to obtain this information.

There are 240 supported exempt claims, and it will take 10 minutes to check the claim data to provide the breakdown: $240 \times 10 / 60 = 40$ hours.

Advice and Assistance

We could supply you with a range of breakdowns of the weekly rent, between eligible rent, actual rent charges, and eligible service charges, showing the lowest, median and highest breakdowns.

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.

