



Barnet House, 9th Floor

14 May 2021  
Our ref: 7252872

Dear Mr Marilus,

Thank you for your request received on 15 April 2021, for the following information:

**1. Barnet Council recently placed a number of lengthy wooden Plant Troughs-described by Barnet as Temporary Planted Furniture on different High Streets around the Borough.as part of the Temporary Street Space Fund Scheme. This scheme is now apparently closed.**

**What is the reason that Barnet Council have decided to close this scheme?**

**What date did Barnet first open this scheme?**

**What date did Barnet close the scheme from all new Applicants.?**

**2. How many wooden Plant Troughs-described by Barnet as Temporary Planted Furniture were placed under this scheme in the Borough of Barnet on different high streets within the Borough in total?**

**How many Contracts were entered into between LB Barnet and Local Businesses in the Borough whereby the relevant shop etc would use the space created by the Temporary Planted Furniture to seat outdoor customers, such as outside Restaurants or Cafes Etc?**

**3. Directly regarding point 2 above, how many of those who have entered into such Contracts with Barnet Council have asked for their Contracts to be Terminated before the end of the stipulated Term of the Contract?- and/or have asked Barnet Council for the said Temporary Planted Furniture to be Removed?**

**4. Are the Council aware of any street accidents, Vehicular, Pedestrian or otherwise that have occurred involving any of these Temporary Planted Furniture Structures.? If Yes, how many such incidents/accidents have been reported to the Council by either members of the Public, Vehicle drivers including Buses and Public Transport Companies as well as the Emergency Services?**

The above requests are made both under the Freedom of information Act and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

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

**Response**

The council holds the information requested and it is answered below.

***1. Barnet Council recently placed a number of lengthy wooden Plant Troughs-described by Barnet as Temporary Planted Furniture on different High Streets around the Borough.as part of the Temporary Street Space Fund Scheme. This scheme is now apparently closed.***

The scheme has continued to be live, with the installed Parklets remaining in use from August 2020. The programme was temporarily closed due to all units the council had secured resource for being allocated and installed. The council have kept an expression of interest process for any businesses interested in participating in the scheme. The Temporary Streetspace Fund scheme has recently re-opened due to resource becoming available for additional planted units.

***What is the reason that Barnet Council have decided to close this scheme?***

The scheme remains open.

***What date did Barnet first open this scheme?***

August 2020.

***What date did Barnet close the scheme from all new Applicants.?***

For clarity, the scheme has never closed to new businesses, the council have continued engagement and have maintained an expression of interest process to allow businesses to approach us should they be interested in participating in the scheme. We have engaged with all businesses who have expressed an interest, explored other licensing alternatives available to access streetspace and maintained them on a waiting list for the Temporary Streetspace Fund programme.

***2. How many wooden Plant Troughs-described by Barnet as Temporary Planted Furniture were placed under this scheme in the Borough of Barnet on different high streets within the Borough in total?***

There have been 24 units placed across the Borough in ten different town centres. Some of these have been subject to relocation based on discussions with Businesses no longer wanting or needing to utilise this additional streetspace.

***How many Contracts were entered into between LB Barnet and Local Businesses in the Borough whereby the relevant shop etc would use the space created by the Temporary Planted Furniture to seat outdoor customers, such as outside Restaurants or Cafes Etc?***

Every business receiving the Temporary Streetspace has completed an application form, passed a round of business checks and entered into an agreement with the council and received a Pavement License to use the space allocated.

***3. Directly regarding point 2 above, how many of those who have entered into such Contracts with Barnet Council have asked for their Contracts to be Terminated before the end of the stipulated Term of the Contract?- and/or have asked Barnet Council for the said Temporary Planted Furniture to be Removed?***

There have been five businesses in total that have requested for these Parklets to be removed following installation. All these have been re-allocated to other businesses.

***4. Are the Council aware of any street accidents, Vehicular, Pedestrian or otherwise that have occurred involving any of these Temporary Planted Furniture Structures.? If Yes, how many such incidents/accidents have been reported to the Council by either members of the Public, Vehicle drivers including Buses and Public Transport Companies as well as the Emergency Services?***

In the past nine months since installation, only one accident in the vicinity of a parklet was reported. The accident took place at night and was caused by excessive speeding and careless driving; it was not caused by the parklet installation. Two planters were hit and the contractors speedily attended the site to reposition the equipment.

### **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.