

18 May 2021
Our ref: 7309860

Thank you for your request received on 12 May 2021, for the following information:

Please answer the following questions to this FOI as dated above (12th May).

For the London Mayoral Election and elections to the GLA, 2021:

Question 1: What companies have contracts with the Greater London Authority and/ or council to manage or share the administration and management of election and ballot services, including postal ballots, voter registration, computer and scanning machine services for counts and cloud services that were run across London and in the three counting halls: Excel, Olympia and Alexandra Palace.

- If there are different companies operating different administrative tasks and contracts regarding ballot services , please specify which companies operate the following:

- Postal ballot papers**
- Voter registration**
- Ballot Paper Scanning machines used at the counting halls (Excel, Alexandra Palace, Olympia)**
- The employment/management of count staff and volunteers**
- IT Services for the counting halls**
- Cloud services for the administration of mayoral ballots, London wide ballots and constituency ballots.**

Question 2:

- Who (what organisation or officials) independently verified the count at Olympia, Alexandra Palace and Excel?

Question 3:

If you have named companies above (see questions) that have contracts for the management of ballot services, please state what companies initially commenced contracts with you and from when?

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

Response

I am writing to inform you that we have searched our records and the information you requested is not held by London Borough of Barnet.

The Freedom of Information Act does not list any person appointed under the Representation of the People Act, 1983, which is the principle legislation governing elections and electoral registration. Therefore, the Electoral Registration Officer, Returning Officer or any other person appointed under the Act are not subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

The GLA have an elections team (London Elects - info@londonelects.org.uk) that may be able to help with information about the contracts in place to deliver the Mayor of London and London Assembly elections (in particular the provision of ballot papers and the IT required for the Electronic Count held across three venues in London). However, much of this data is likely to already have been published and made available within the public domain (e.g. <https://www.london.gov.uk/decisions/gfro-20-05-contract-electronic-counting-system-and-related-service>).

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.

