

27 May 2021
Our ref: 7266204

Thank you for your request received on 28 April 2021, for the following information:

Please could you provide the following information.

Between January 2016 and December 2020 (inclusive):

How many complaints about alleged wrongdoing/ maladministration/ illegality/ impropriety etc were made to the Monitoring Officer or referred to the Monitoring Officer.

Of these complaints, how many were investigated by the Monitoring Officer personally, or on his/ her behalf by someone he/ she delegated to investigate.

Of these investigated complaints, how many resulted in the production of a Monitoring Officer report for the Council's Committees and Councillors.

Thank you very much for your assistance with this request.

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

Response

I can confirm that London Borough of Barnet holds the information you requested.

However, we believe that the exemptions detailed below apply to all the information you requested and so we are withholding that information. Please see the Refusal Notice below.

Between January 2016 and December 2020 (inclusive):

How many complaints about alleged wrongdoing/ maladministration/ illegality/ impropriety etc were made to the Monitoring Officer or referred to the Monitoring Officer.

Of these complaints, how many were investigated by the Monitoring Officer personally, or on his/ her behalf by someone he/ she delegated to investigate.

Of these investigated complaints, how many resulted in the production of a Monitoring Officer report for the Council's Committees and Councillors.

We consider that the absolute exemption set out in Section 21 (Information accessible by other means) applies to the information requested because the information requested is already reasonably accessible elsewhere.

I have provided links below to the Monitoring Officer reports from 2016 to 2020 - please note that the reports are compiled in financial years.

The report for 2020/21 has not yet been published but the Monitoring Officer has confirmed that no complaints have been received for this financial year which would trigger a Monitoring Officer report to council.

2019/20

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=174&MID=10215#AI31710>

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s60467/Appendix%20A%20-%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20Allegations%20-%202019-20.pdf>

2018/19

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=174&MID=9854#AI28653>

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s53172/Appendix%20A%20-%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20Allegations%20-%202018-19.pdf>

2017/18

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=174&MID=9502#AI26575>

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s48989/Appendix%20A%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20Allegations%20201718.pdf>

2016/17

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=589&MID=8832#AI20941>

<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s38533/Appendix%20A%20-%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20Allegations%20-%202016-17.pdf>

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.