

2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale, NW9 4EW
2 June 2021
Our ref: 7316892

Thank you for your request received on 13 May 2021, for the following information:

- 1. Does the council collect, from councillors allowances, funds which are then passed to a political party?**
- 2. Please give the reason why the council is collecting, from councillors allowances, funds for a political party**
- 3. Please advise the annual amount collected and paid to each individually named political party**
- 4. Has NI and Tax been deducted before the funds are collected?**
- 5. What is the cost to the council for making these deductions and arranging bank transfers or cheque payments?**
- 6. What bank charges are incurred in transferring the funds or cheque payments?**

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 although we hold some of the information requested, some is not held by London Borough of Barnet.

We have provided answers to your request below showing where we do not hold the information requested.

1. Does the council collect, from councillors allowances, funds which are then passed to a political party?

Yes

2. Please give the reason why the council is collecting, from councillors allowances, funds for a political party

N/A

3. Please advise the annual amount collected and paid to each individually named political party

£26,966.52 (19/20)

£27,506.54 (20/21)

4. Has NI and Tax been deducted before the funds are collected?

Yes

5. What is the cost to the council for making these deductions and arranging bank transfers or cheque payments?

This information is not held separately - it is included in the overall service cost to our payroll provider.

6. What bank charges are incurred in transferring the funds or cheque payments?

This information is not held separately - it is included in the overall service cost to our payroll provider.

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.