

16 July 2021  
Our ref: 7436104

Thank you for your request received on 3 June 2021, for the following information:

\* Did the council introduce free or reduced car parking during the pandemic (i.e since March 2020)? If so, please provide a brief summary of the fee reduction (location, extent of price reduction, whether scheme was for key workers or all motorists, etc). If more than one scheme was introduced please detail each one.

\* For each scheme, what date did the reduced parking fees scheme come into effect and on what date did it expire/ was it due to expire?

\* For each scheme, has the scheme been extended beyond the duration that was initially announced? If so, until what date?

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

## **Response**

The council holds the information requested and the answers to your questions are below

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In March 2020, in response to the national lockdown, the Council made changes to parking enforcement. Enforcement did continue throughout the period of lockdown, but with measures taken to protect the welfare of our enforcement officers and to allow those shielding or self-isolating, and those helping them in their duty as a key worker or volunteer, to park where COVID-19 related constraints would have made it impossible for them to obtain a permit or other parking concession to park. The measures taken to relax parking enforcement were in accordance with London-wide advice issued by London Councils.

Civil Enforcement Officers continued to patrol throughout this period and Penalty Charge Notices were issued to motorists observed parking in obstruction or in a manner which could compromise safety or restrict essential deliveries.

Parking enforcement returned to normal on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020. From that point, certain key workers were able to access parking concessions to allow them to park without payment, in paid parking bays.

This included:

- School staff
- Emergency services
- NHS and health and care workers.

From 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021, school staff were able to access special concessionary rates to park in selected Pay by Phone (pay to park) locations, on street and in Council run car parks. The discounted tariff is £5 per day at selected on street locations and £4 per day in selected Council operated car parks. These special rates are available from 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021, to the end of the summer term (31<sup>st</sup> July 2021).

The government COVID-19 parking concessions for health and care workers were withdrawn in London Borough of Barnet from 21 June 2021. Additional concessions for emergency services staff were also withdrawn prior to 21 June 2021.

### **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.