

12 August 2021  
Our ref: 7500556

Thank you for your request received on 15 July 2021, for the following information:  
**In a recent reply to a FOIA response submitted 26/02/2021 you outlined the local authority's policy on the provision of financial support to families with No Recourse to Public Funds ('NRPF') seeking access to support under section 17 of the Children Act 1989.**

**Under the Freedom of Information Act, could you please confirm whether the local authority, for a family eligible for support under Section 17 of the Children's Act 1989, who have no other source of income:**

**a) has guidance on the minimum or median rate of support provided per family member?**

**b) if so, what is the minimum or median rate received per week (or fortnight if subsistence is paid fortnightly rather than weekly)?**

**c) whether the local authority provides additional funds for children aged 1-3?**

**d) whether the local authority provides additional funds for children aged 0-1?**

**e) whether the local authority provides additional funds for pregnant mothers?**

**f) whether the local authority provided any additional subsistence payments during the Covid-19 pandemic to help with additional costs?**

**g) if the answer to any of questions c)-f) is yes, then please outline what additional funds are received per week (or fortnight if subsistence is paid fortnightly rather than weekly)?**

**h) whether the local authority provides a maternity grant following the birth of a child?**

**i) and if so, how much is this grant and is it provided for every child or only for the first child born to the mother?**

**j) whether the local authority provides discretionary payments for additional expenditure, eg. winter clothes, school uniforms, travel costs?**

**k) and if so, is there any guidance on the maximum amount payable or the frequency of payments?**

**If you hold any of the information requested but consider it is exempt from disclosure, please state specifically what exemption you rely upon (including the relevant statutory provision) and the reason you consider it to be applicable.**

**We look forward to receiving your response within 20 working days as per the FOIA.**

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

***In a recent reply to a FOIA response submitted 26/02/2021 you outlined the local authority's policy on the provision of financial support to families with No Recourse to Public Funds ('NRPF') seeking access to support under section 17 of the Children Act 1989.***

***Under the Freedom of Information Act, could you please confirm whether the local authority, for a family eligible for support under Section 17 of the Children's Act 1989, who have no other source of income:***

***a) has guidance on the minimum or median rate of support provided per family member?***

London Borough of Barnet follow [Guidance for councils | NRPF Network](#)

***b) if so, what is the minimum or median rate received per week (or fortnight if subsistence is paid fortnightly rather than weekly)?***

£35 per child paid weekly

**c) whether the local authority provides additional funds for children aged 1-3?**

When determined by an assessment of the child and family's needs

**d) whether the local authority provides additional funds for children aged 0-1?**

When determined by an assessment of the child and family's needs

**e) whether the local authority provides additional funds for pregnant mothers?**

When determined by an assessment of the child and family's needs

**f) whether the local authority provided any additional subsistence payments during the Covid-19 pandemic to help with additional costs?**

No additional subsistence payments were automatically provided to NRPF families during covid 19 pandemic, any additional support needs arising would have been subject to an assessment

**g) if the answer to any of questions c)-f) is yes, then please outline what additional funds are received per week (or fortnight if subsistence is paid fortnightly rather than weekly)?**

Weekly payments

**h) whether the local authority provides a maternity grant following the birth of a child?**

No

**i) and if so, how much is this grant and is it provided for every child or only for the first child born to the mother?**

N/A

**j) whether the local authority provides discretionary payments for additional expenditure, eg. winter clothes, school uniforms, travel costs?**

Yes, when identified in the assessment as an additional need

**k) and if so, is there any guidance on the maximum amount payable or the frequency of payments?**

There is no specific guidance as this is determined by the assessment of need

## **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.