



London Borough of Barnet,
2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale,
London NW9 4EW
13 September 2021
Our ref: 7578828

Thank you for your request received on 19 August 2021, for the following information:

Further to your local authority declaring a climate emergency and setting a target for your area to be carbon neutral by 2030 please advise:

- 1. If you have published a plan setting out how you will achieve this target. If so please provide a link to the document.**
- 2. What reduction (if any) in your local authority's own carbon emissions so far.**
- 3. What reduction (if any) in your local authority's own energy consumption.**
- 4. What incentives you have provided (if any) for electric cars. For example, reduction in parking permits and fees.**
- 5. How much of your local authority's own vehicle fleet has been switched to electric vehicles?**
- 6. How many new street trees (if any) you have planted in the financial year 2020/21.**
- 7. What changes (if any) you have undertaken to ease planning restrictions to convert commercial to residential properties.**

We have processed this request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Response

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

- 1. If you have published a plan setting out how you will achieve this target. If so please provide a link to the document.***

While Barnet has not declared a Climate Emergency, we recognise the important role that the borough must play in addressing climate change. We are therefore committed to ensuring that residents, the council and the borough as a whole are able to become more sustainable in everything they do. With this in mind, we are currently reviewing the actions of the Council, and will be bringing forward a draft of the boroughs first Sustainability Strategy later in the year. This will set out what we are already doing, and propose new actions and objectives which will enable us to meet the ambitious targets of the government, as well as detailing how we can empower residents, businesses, and partners to similarly make meaningful changes.

2. What reduction (if any) in your local authority's own carbon emissions so far.

Based on the Councils reporting under the Carbon Reduction Commitment CO2 emissions reduced by 59% between reporting 2014/15 - 2018/19

3. What reduction (if any) in your local authority's own energy consumption.

Based on the Councils reporting under the Carbon Reduction Commitment energy consumption reduced by 33% between reporting years 2014/15 - 2018/19

4. What incentives you have provided (if any) for electric cars. For example, reduction in parking permits and fees .

Electric vehicles in the borough benefit from discounted parking permits. Barnet also has an ambitious EV charge point programme which aims to install charge points across the borough based on resident request in order to support the transition to electric vehicles

5. How much of your local authority's own vehicle fleet has been switched to electric vehicles?

This project is on going and part of the replacement programme. Vehicle are replaced at the end of their life cycle and therefor electric vehicles will come in when older vehicle are due replacement and when electric alternatives are available. Supervisors vans are the next to be replaced and alternative like electric are being sourced. We currently have two electric vans. Electric sweepers and RCV's are being evaluated, but currently do not met the operation model required for a full day's work required by the council. The change to electric vehicles is not a simple purchase of an electric vehicle, it also involves retooling for the workshop, safety training for the workshop staff and new working practices in operation.

6. How many new street trees (if any) you have planted in the financial year 2020/21.

639 street trees

7. What changes (if any) you have undertaken to ease planning restrictions to convert commercial to residential properties.

The Council has not further eased planning restrictions beyond the national General Permitted Development Order

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.