

London Borough of Barnet, 2 Bristol Avenue Colindale, NW9 4EW 26 August 2021

Our ref: 7604388

Thank you for your request received on 4 August 2021, for the following information:

- 1...As far as housing support (including but not limited to housing benefit) is concerned what is the highest amount currently being paid by the council to or on behalf of a claimant (s). Can you state how much is being paid to or on behalf of the claimant (s) on a weekly or monthly basis. Is this payment being made directly to the claimant? If not, who is receiving the payment? For instance, is the payment being made to a landlord or other kind of accommodation provider. Can you specify? In the case of the payment can you specify what type of payment it is. For instance, is it housing benefit?
- 2...How many claimants are currently claiming at this level. In the case of each of these claimants claiming at this level are any required to repay any part of the payment to the council, can you, please state the level of repayment on a weekly or monthly basis.
- 3...In the case of each claimant claiming at this level how long have they been claiming at this level. It is possible that these claimants have a long-standing claim (s) with the council which has included payments at this as well as at other levels. In the case of each of these claimants what is the total amount they have claimed from the council so far and over what period of time.
- 4...In the case of those claimant (s) currently in receipt of the highest weekly or monthly amounts (as described in questions one or two) can you state how many dependents are living with them in the property (ies) covered by the claim. These dependents will include spouses, partners, children and members of an extended family. Can you provide the ages of each dependent?
- 5...In the case of each claimant claiming at this level can you provide some details of their accommodation. Can you state whether they are living in a hotel or in bed and breakfast accommodation or in a hostel or similar. Alternatively, are the claimants living in a flat, apartment, maisonette or similar? Can you please state which? Alternatively, are the claimants living in a house? If the claimant is living in a house, can you provide the following details. How many storeys does the property have? Is the property detached, semi-detached, a bungalow, terraced or other? Can you please state which? How many gardens does the property have? Are the garden (s) at the front or back of the property? How many bedrooms does the property have? How many toilets does the property have? Does the property have a garage? Does the property have a conservatory?

- 6...Irrespective of the type of accommodation used by the claimant (s) is the accommodation within the council's own geographical area? If it is NOT within the council's own geographical area, can you state which town, city, borough, village the property is in. If the accommodation is in the council's geographical area, can you, please provide details of the electoral ward. Can you also provide details of the post code?
- 7...For whatever reason has the council (and not just its benefit or housing department) asked the claimant for details of the claimant's place of birth. If the answer is yes can state, the claimant's country of birth.

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 because Some of the information requested regarding property details is not held.

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

1...As far as housing support (including but not limited to housing benefit) is concerned what is the highest amount currently being paid by the council to or on behalf of a claimant (s). Can you state how much is being paid to or on behalf of the claimant (s) on a weekly or monthly basis. Is this payment being made directly to the claimant? If not, who is receiving the payment? For instance, is the payment being made to a landlord or other kind of accommodation provider. Can you specify? In the case of the payment can you specify what type of payment it is. For instance, is it housing benefit?

Housing benefit - £800.89 pw - paid to claimant

2...How many claimants are currently claiming at this level. In the case of each of these claimants claiming at this level are any required to repay any part of the payment to the council, can you, please state the level of repayment on a weekly or monthly basis.

One. No repayment.

3...In the case of each claimant claiming at this level how long have they been claiming at this level. It is possible that these claimants have a long-standing claim (s) with the council which has included payments at this as well as at other levels. In the case of each of these claimants what is the total amount they have claimed from the council so far and over what period of time.

At this level since 17.05.21. Records held confirm claiming at address since 28.03.2004. Totalled claimed £516.911.68

4...In the case of those claimant (s) currently in receipt of the highest weekly or monthly amounts (as described in questions one or two) can you state how many dependents are living with them in the property (ies) covered by the claim. These dependents will include spouses, partners, children and members of an extended family. Can you provide the ages of each dependent?

5 other members in household. Ages 65, 28, 24, 22 & 22.

- 5...In the case of each claimant claiming at this level can you provide some details of their accommodation. Can you state whether they are living in a hotel or in bed and breakfast accommodation or in a hostel or similar. Alternatively, are the claimants living in a flat, apartment, maisonette or similar? Can you please state which? Alternatively, are the claimants living in a house? If the claimant is living in a house, can you provide the following details. How many storeys does the property have? Is the property detached, semi-detached, a bungalow, terraced or other? Can you please state which? How many gardens does the property have? Are the garden (s) at the front or back of the property? How many bedrooms does the property have? How many bathrooms does the property have? How many toilets does the property have? Does the property have a garage? Does the property have a conservatory?
- 3 Bedroom Detached house. 3 Floors. 6 Bedrooms, 4 Toilets. The rest of the information regarding accommodation type is not held.
- 6...Irrespective of the type of accommodation used by the claimant (s) is the accommodation within the council's own geographical area? If it is NOT within the council's own geographical area, can you state which town, city, borough, village the property is in. If the accommodation is in the council's geographical area, can you, please provide details of the electoral ward. Can you also provide details of the post code?

Yes, within area. NW11

7...For whatever reason has the council (and not just its benefit or housing department) asked the claimant for details of the claimant's place of birth. If the answer is yes can state, the claimant's country of birth.

Not held.

## **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 <a href="https://www.ico.org.uk">www.ico.org.uk</a>

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: <a href="mailto:foi@barnet.gov.uk">foi@barnet.gov.uk</a>. 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 <a href="https://www.ico.org.uk">www.ico.org.uk</a>). There is no charge for making an appeal.