

13 September 2021
Our ref: 7568264

Thank you for your request received on 16 August 2021, for the following information:

I would like to make the following request under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act:

For the financial year ending in April 2021, please state how many planning applications were submitted to the council's planning service.

Of those applications, how many applicants had paid for pre application planning advice?

Of the applications which had included pre application planning advice, how many were approved?

Of the applications which had not paid for such advice, how many were refused?

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

Response

I can confirm that London Borough of Barnet holds the information you requested.

However, we believe that the exceptions detailed below apply to the information you requested and so we are withholding that information.

For the financial year ending in April 2021, please state how many planning applications were submitted to the council's planning service.

Please see the Refusal Notice below.

R6(1)(b) - Material already published

We consider that Regulation 6(1)(b) applies to the information requested because the information requested is already publicly available and easily accessible.

Under regulation 6(1)(b) of EIR, we are not required to provide information in response to a

request if it is already reasonably accessible to you by other means.

The information relevant to your request is published online at the following link:

The information you requested is available via the advanced search pages of our website using the date received from and status/type of application as the search criteria for access to all planning applications received from April 2021, by using the following link <https://publicaccess.barnet.gov.uk/online-applications/search.do?action=advanced>

Of those applications, how many applicants had paid for pre application planning advice?

Of the applications which had included pre application planning advice, how many were approved?

Of the applications which had not paid for such advice, how many were refused?

Please see the Refusal Notice below. Information not held. There is no way to determine if an application had a pre application meeting or not as this data is not held by application.

R12(4)(a) - Information not held

We consider that regulation 12(4)(a) (Information not held) applies to the information requested because we do not hold the information requested. The ICO have stated that they do not expect a public authority to undertake a public interest test where they do not hold the information.

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.