

London Borough of Barnet,
2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale,
London NW9 4EW
28 September 2021
Our ref: 7613348

Thank you for your request received on 24 August 2021, for the following information:

Thank you so much for your response dated 23 June 2021, your help is very much appreciated.

We understand Barnet Borough Council has arranged
*** 1 Compulsory Purchase Order of the long-time Empty Property**
*** 3 Enforced Sales which were arranged by Council Tax Team**

We've requested some clarification but never received the response.
We have been advised by Information Management Officer to send the request again, therefore please see below what did we asked for.

For each of this enforcement please disclose:

- a) The address of the properties**
- b) The date of the enforcement's were made**
- c) The amount of proceeds from the sale or the amount of agreed compensation**
- d) The amount which is held by the council of surplus proceeds of each sale after payment of costs, debts and other charges (claimed or unclaimed by the former owners or their personal representatives of the relevant properties)**
- e) Where the proceeds are held - if the council is still holding to the funds or the funds were distributed/passed to the previous owners or passed to the court**

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

Response

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

However, we believe that the exemptions detailed below apply to some/all of this information and this is withheld. Please see the Refusal Notice below.

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a) The address of the properties

Please see Refusal Notice below

S31 - Law Enforcement

Section 31(1) (Law enforcement) subsection 1 applies to the information.

Information is exempt if its disclosure would prejudice the prevention and detection of crime.

A Freedom of Information Request response is a response available to the whole world. It is therefore not just given to the requester but is available to any other person who may request it. Whilst a requester may have bona fides in requesting information, there are likely to be others who have nefarious intent

In applying this exemption, we have had to balance the public interest in withholding the information against the interest in favour of disclosure.

Factors in favour of disclosure:

- * The council's commitment to openness and transparency

Factors in favour of withholding:

- * There is a strong likelihood of release causing crime.
- * It is not in the public interest to increase the risks of crime.
- * A recent case held against disclosure and it is not in the public interest to act against a decided case

In all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

b) The date of the enforcement's were made

- * 1 Compulsory Purchase Order of the long-time Empty Property. CPO dated 24.5.18
 - * 3 Enforced Sales which were arranged by Council Tax Team
- These are the dates Order for Sale by the court was granted: 03/06/2013, 13/02/2018 & 03/01/2017

c) The amount of proceeds from the sale or the amount of agreed compensation

* 1 Compulsory Purchase Order of the long-time Empty Property. Proceeds from the sale - £705,000

* 3 Enforced Sales which were arranged by Council Tax Team. No compensation received and we don't keep information regarding the proceeds of sale.

d) The amount which is held by the council of surplus proceeds of each sale after payment of costs, debts and other charges (claimed or unclaimed by the former owners or their personal representatives of the relevant properties)

* 1 Compulsory Purchase Order of the long-time Empty Property. £696,922.87

* 3 Enforced Sales which were arranged by Council Tax Team. We do not hold any proceeds of sale.

e) Where the proceeds are held - if the council is still holding to the funds or the funds were distributed/passed to the previous owners or passed to the court

* 1 Compulsory Purchase Order of the long-time Empty Property. Held by the Council.

* 3 Enforced Sales which were arranged by Council Tax Team. All proceeds returned to the Council

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 Records & Information Management Service, Assurance Group, 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.