

London Borough of Barnet,
2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale,
London NW9 4EW
27 September 2021
Our ref: 7607620

Thank you for your request received on 27 August 2021, for the following information:

My request is: in each of the last five years how many social workers has the council employed through an agency? And what was the total amount charged by each agency to the council for the cost of these contracted social workers over the same period?

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 of the information you requested is not held by London Borough of Barnet.

We have provided answers to your request below.

My request is: in each of the last five years how many social workers has the council employed through an agency?

The legacy system cannot be interrogated and the information is not held in the format requested, for example:

[2016-17 Comensura Expenditure - Barnet Open Data](#)

[2017-18 Comensura Expenditure - Barnet Open Data](#)

The Council's Provision of Temporary and Interim Worker Services is under the Matrix SCM contract, a link to which can be found here [Matrix SCM - Temporary Agency Staff Contract - Barnet Open Data](#)

The Council can provide a partial response back to October 2018 when the current system (Matrix) was introduced.

From October 2018:

1 October 2018 to 30 September 2019 - 173 Social Workers

1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020 - 142 Social Workers

1 October 2020 to date - 127 Social Workers

And what was the total amount charged by each agency to the council for the cost of these contracted social workers over the same period?

It is not possible to break down costs by job title by year due to reporting restrictions but since 1 October 2018 we have spent £12,110,893 on Social Workers.

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.