

London Borough of Barnet,
2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale,
London NW9 4EW
18 October 2021
Our ref: 7684384

Thank you for your request received on 28 September 2021, for the following information:

1 On which roads are the verges cut.?

2 Why are verges cut?

3 On Hammers Lane this May the verges were cut in such a way that all the flowers were destroyed and the grass was cut so low that there was no grass left - just a bare strip of earth. Why was all plant life destroyed, and is it Barnet's policy to destroy plant life? If it is not, then why was it allowed to happen?

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

Response

The council holds the information requested and it is attached/ the answers to your questions are below

On which roads are the verges cut?

All grass verges on the public highways are included in the maintenance programme.

Why are verges cut?

To stop them becoming overgrown.

On Hammers Lane this May the verges were cut in such a way that all the flowers were destroyed and the grass was cut so low that there was no grass left - just a bare strip of earth. Why was all plant life destroyed, and is it Barnet's policy to destroy plant life? If it is not, then why was it allowed to happen?

Grass should be cut to uniformed height of 15mm / 25 mm of course this will be changed if the grass was long due to rapid growing conditions and we would leave the grass longer than 25mm so prevent a lot of arisings being left on verge .

We have no policy to kill plant life whilst grass cutting. Within the grass verges you will find common weeds which will be cut out during the process. During drought conditions we would suspend grass cutting so as not to stress the grass further.

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.