

London Borough of Barnet,
2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale,
London NW9 4EW
1 November 2021
Our ref: 7767088

Thank you for your request received on 7 October 2021, for the following information:

As per the Freedom of Information Act, can you please provide an answer to the following:

- a) As a local authority, do you provide a School Uniform Grant? (it may be called a different name in your authority, but is generally known as this)**
- b) what is the lowest Grant to have paid to a household for this academic year?**
- c) what is the highest Grant you have paid to a household for this academic year?**
- d) When does your Grant scheme run from and till each year? (I understand that some local authorities have schemes that run from June to September, for example)**
- d) Within the time-frame above, where relevant, how much in £ have you paid out in total? (if your Grant scheme is year-round, please provide the amount you have issued for the academic year that started last month.**

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

Response

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

As per the Freedom of Information Act, can you please provide an answer to the following:

a) As a local authority, do you provide a School Uniform Grant? (it may be called a different name in your authority, but is generally known as this)

The Local Authority does not provide School Uniform Grants although it is the case that a registered charity called the Mayor's Benevolent Fund assists individuals and families who claim an income-related benefit and have lived in the borough for at least a year by way of the award of a one-off grant capped at £200. This assistance

includes help to buy school uniform, but only for children aged 11+ who are moving up to, or changing, secondary school.

b) what is the lowest Grant to have paid to a household for this academic year?

£50

c) what is the highest Grant you have paid to a household for this academic year?

£200

d) When does your Grant scheme run from and till each year? (I understand that some local authorities have schemes that run from June to September, for example)

Uniform grants are awarded throughout a financial year or until the budget for that year is exhausted, but mainly occur between June and September each year given that most are in support of children joining year seven at the start of the autumn term.

d) Within the time-frame above, where relevant, how much in £ have you paid out in total? (if your Grant scheme is year-round, please provide the amount you have issued for the academic year that started last month.

To date, 50 uniform grants totalling £5,025 have been awarded in this financial year, 2021/22. The standard award is £100, a sum that varies depending on the cost of the uniform and the availability of any funding directly from the school in question.

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.