

London Borough of Barnet,  
2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale,  
London NW9 4EW  
9 November 2021  
Our ref: 7785916

Thank you for your request received on 3 November 2021, for the following information:

**I am writing to make a request for the information to which I am entitled under Freedom of Information Act 2000. My requests are outlined below as specifically as possible but do let me know if anything is unclear. Please could you provide the following information:**

- 1) Will Barnet council be participating in the Afghanistan Resettlement programmes ARAP + ACRS and if so, how many individuals/families will you be taking on?**
- 2) If you are not participating in the Afghanistan Resettlement programmes ARAP + ACRS, can you explain why?**
- 3) What was the Barnet council's response to the Syrian Resettlement programme (VPRS)?**

**I look forward to your response within 20 working days.**

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

## **Response**

The council holds the information requested and the answers to your questions are below

***I am writing to make a request for the information to which I am entitled under Freedom of Information Act 2000. My requests are outlined below as specifically as possible but do let me know if anything is unclear. Please could you provide the following information:***

- 1) Will Barnet council be participating in the Afghanistan Resettlement programmes ARAP + ACRS and if so, how many individuals/families will you be taking on?***

Yes, Barnet have pledged to take 5 families, 2 of which have already settled in Barnet.

- 2) If you are not participating in the Afghanistan Resettlement programmes ARAP + ACRS, can you explain why?***
- 3) What was the Barnet council's response to the Syrian Resettlement programme (VPRS)?***

We are now in the 5th year of delivering the Syrian Resettlement scheme within Barnet, having taken our first family in January 2016. We made a pledge to resettle 50 individuals, and initially reached this in May 2017. One family subsequently left the scheme, so the pledge was then refilled in April 2018. The council receives a grant from the Home Office for each family for their first 5 years in the UK, this tapers off throughout the five years from a starting point of £8k to an ending point of £1k.

Barnet Council have commissioned Barnet Homes to source accommodation and provide housing and wraparound support for the families. Barnet Homes employs a Refugee Resettlement Coordinator to provide a rounded support service aiding families with the various aspects of their daily lives in the UK; including healthcare, education, social network and financial stability; both benefit entitlement, and support securing and sustaining employment. All the families were provided with ESOL classes.

### **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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.ico.org.uk)). There is no charge for making an appeal.

