London Borough of Barnet 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, London, NW9 4EW 10 November 2021 Our ref: 7739932

Thank you for your request received on 15 October 2021, for the following information:

My request relates to local authority commissioned funding for refuge services and housing for victims and survivors of domestic abuse.

Please can you provide the following information about the commissioned funding for domestic abuse support services in your local authority.

- 1. Do you directly commission refuge services for victims and survivors of domestic abuse?
- 2. If yes, is the refuge service you commission for women only (single sex)?
- 3. The Domestic Abuse Bill 2021 introduced a new legal duty for local authorities to fund "safe accommodation" for victims and survivors of domestic abuse and their children. Is the safe accommodation you fund under the new duty women only (single sex)?
- 4. The Domestic Abuse Bill 2021 introduced a new legal duty for local authorities to fund "safe accommodation" for victims and survivors of domestic abuse and their children. Does the safe accommodation you fund under the new duty provide specialist support designed for women who have survived domestic abuse?

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

1. Do you directly commission refuge services for victims and survivors of domestic abuse?

Yes

2. If yes, is the refuge service you commission for women only (single sex)?

Yes for women and children only (boys under the age of 13, and girls up to any age)

3. The Domestic Abuse Bill 2021 introduced a new legal duty for local authorities to fund "safe accommodation" for victims and survivors of domestic abuse and their children. Is the safe accommodation you fund under the new duty women only (single sex)?

Yes for women and their children boys under the age of 13, and girls up to any age)

4. The Domestic Abuse Bill 2021 introduced a new legal duty for local authorities to fund "safe accommodation" for victims and survivors of domestic abuse and their children. Does the safe accommodation you fund under the new duty provide specialist support designed for women who have survived domestic abuse?

We do provide specialist support to survivors of domestic abuse (counselling ,group programmes and resettlement support) but for complex and specialist needs, we refer to specialist services for support.

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.