

London Borough of Barnet
2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale,
London, NW9 4EW
16 May 2022
Our ref: 8255132

Thank you for your request received on 2 May 2022, for the following information:

Dear London Borough of Barnet,

I would like to obtain the information, from the Council, relating to unclaimed business rate credit balances.

I am aware that all Billing Authorities hold on account sums of money that are due to be returned to ratepayers and for a variety of reasons have not been repaid and maybe considered untraceable by the Council.

I therefore request a breakdown of credit balances accrued since your earliest records, for the amounts owing to all incorporated companies within the authorities billing area, including the following information:

- A. The name of each business in respect of which non-domestic rate credit balances has been written back on to the ndr account**
- B. The value of write back in each case which remains unclaimed**
- C. The years(s) in which write back was made (if available) and**
- D. The hereditament address that the write back relates to**

If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please advise, as per Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

Yours Sincerely,

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

Response

I can confirm that London Borough of Barnet holds the information you requested.

However, we believe that the exemptions detailed below apply to all of this information and this is withheld. Please see the Refusal Notice below.

S21 - Material already published

Under section 21 of the Act, we are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is already reasonably accessible to you by other means.

This information is available on our Open Barnet data portal using the following link:

<https://open.barnet.gov.uk/dataset/business-rates--nndr----accounts-in-credit>

If you do not have access to the internet at home, you may be able to use facilities at your local library.

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.