

London Borough of Barnet
2 Bristol Avenue,
Collindale,
London, NW9 4EW
29 June 2022
Our ref: 8311423

Thank you for your request received on 6 June 2022, for the following information:

*** What information is currently publicly available on Barnet council's website for or about Gypsy Traveller communities? Please provide links.**

*** What plan does the council have to update the information on its website pertaining to Gypsy and Traveller communities?**

*** What is the borough's protocol for unauthorised encampments? Please provide a link or digital copy of the document.**

*** Does the borough have a negotiated stopping policy in place? If so, please provide a digital copy of the document. If not, what plan does the borough have to consider negotiated stopping.**

*** Please provide contact details for the council officer liaising with Gypsies and Travellers stopping on unauthorised encampments in Barnet.**

Please let me know if you require further information.

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

Response

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

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

**** What information is currently publicly available on Barnet council's website for or about Gypsy Traveller communities? Please provide links.***

[Statement on Gypsies, Travellers and travelling Showpeople, matter 12, December 2011 \(barnet.gov.uk\)](#)

https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/update_report_gtaa_final.pdf

**** What plan does the council have to update the information on its website pertaining to Gypsy and Traveller communities?***

This has been passed for review to the relevant teams.

**** What is the borough's protocol for unauthorised encampments? Please provide a link or digital copy of the document.***

There is a protocol for unauthorised encampments but are withholding this information using Regulation 12(5)(b) (see below)

**** Does the borough have a negotiated stopping policy in place? If so, please provide a digital copy of the document. If not, what plan does the borough have to consider negotiated stopping.***

No

**** Please provide contact details for the council officer liaising with Gypsies and Travellers stopping on unauthorised encampments in Barnet.***

There is no dedicated post at the moment and liaison for unauthorised encampments is through the Community Safety Team. The Assistant Director overseeing the Team is Declan Khan, 0208 359 7759, declan.khan@barnet.gov.uk

Please let me know if you require further information.

R12(5)(b) The course of justice, fair trial or inquiry of a criminal or disciplinary nature

We consider that regulation 12(5)(b) (The course of justice) applies to the information requested because we consider that disclosure of the information requested would adversely affect the course of justice, the ability of a person to receive a fair trial or the ability of a public authority to conduct an inquiry of a criminal or disciplinary nature.

Therefore, we have decided to withhold the information.

In applying this exception, we have had to balance the public interest in withholding the information against the interest in favour of disclosure.

Factors in favour of disclosure

- * Furthering the understanding and participation in the public debate of issues of the day.
- * Promoting accountability and transparency by public authorities for decisions taken by them.
- * Promoting accountability and transparency in the spending of public money.
- * Allowing individuals, companies and other bodies to understand decisions made by public authorities affecting their lives.

Factors in favour of withholding

* There is a very strong public interest in protecting the law enforcement capabilities of public authorities.

* Increasing the possibility of crime is not in the public interest. Publicising information on operational enforcement and staff resourcing could limit the effectiveness of dealing with encampments.

In all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exception outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

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.