

London Borough Of Barnet
2 Bristol Avenue
27 June 2022
Our ref: 8301357

Thank you for your request received on 26 May 2022, for the following information:

Good morning,

Please may I request the following information as an FOI request?

- 1. What case management system do you use for children's services?**
- 2. Please provide the name(s), email(s) and telephone number(s) of the individual(s) responsible for the FIS / SEND Local Offer sites within your organisation**
- 3. Are your Local Offer pages/FIS site developed in-house or externally?**
- 4. If externally, which providers currently provide your Family Information Services directories and/or SEND Local Offer site?**
- 5. If external, please confirm the value of the FIS contract and/or Local Offer site and when it is due for renewal?**
- 6. If internally, are there any plans for this to be developed by an external supplier?**
- 7. Please provide the name(s), email(s) and telephone number(s) of the individual(s) responsible for Short Breaks provision**
- 8. Do you provide grants or direct payments for Short Breaks provision? If not, are there any plans to provide grants or direct payments in the future?**
- 9. Do you provide a framework of approved Short Breaks providers?**
- 10. What was the annual spend on Short Breaks provision for 2021/22?**
- 11. Do parents/carers book Short Breaks provision via the council?**
- 12. If not, do you use an external organisation to provide this service?**
- 13. Do you use digital solutions to assist with the application, awarding and management of Short Breaks?**
- 14. If so, who is the provider and when is the contract due to expire?**
- 15. Are you considering using digital solutions to manage and oversee your Short Breaks?**
- 16. Does the LA provide Young Carer's grants and if so, please provide the name(s), email(s) and telephone number(s) of the individual(s) at the LA responsible?**
- 17. What was the annual spend on Young Carer's Grants for 2021/22?**
- 18. Are Young Carer's grants applied for direct with the council?**
- 19. If not, do you use an external organisation to administer these?**
- 20. Who is the external provider and what is the cost of their service and when does the contract expire?**
- 21. Do you use digital solutions to assist with the application, awarding and management of Young Carer's grants?**
- 22. If so, who is the provider and when is the contract due to expire?**
- 23. Are you considering using digital solutions to manage your Young Carer's grants?**

24. Please provide the title, name(s) and email(s) of the individual(s) responsible for digital systems for Children's and YP services at the council?
25. Who is the Director of Children's Services at the council and please provide their title, name and email address?
26. Is there a Transformation Manager or Personalisation Lead or similar role? If yes please provide job title, name(s), email(s) address?

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 some of this information and this is withheld. Please see the Refusal Notice below.

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23. Are you considering using digital solutions to manage your Young Carer's grants?

24. Please provide the title, name(s) and email(s) of the individual(s) responsible for digital systems for Children's and YP services at the council?

25. Who is the Director of Children's Services at the council and please provide their title, name and email address?

26. Is there a Transformation Manager or Personalisation Lead or similar role? If yes please provide job title, name(s), email(s) address?

Please see our response on the attached document

For Q5, See refusal notice below as we are applying the exemption under Section 43 (2).

S43 - Commercial interests

We consider that the qualified exemption set out in Section 43 (Prejudicial to commercial interests) subsection (2) applies to the information requested.

Therefore,
we have decided to withhold the information.

Section 2 (commercial interests) - disclosure would or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the council or a third party.

S43 Commercial Interests factors

We consider that the qualified exemption set out in Section 43 (Prejudicial to commercial interests) (2) applies to the information requested. Therefore, we have decided to withhold the information.

The interests of London Borough of Barnet and the public interest have been considered.

The interests are commercial in nature, relating to commercial dealings and are not merely financial. Disclosure would prejudice these interests.

The harm to London Borough of Barnet would be the disclosure of commercially sensitive information given in confidence, which would be likely to give competitors access to information which would help them to develop or improve competing products.

The harm to London Borough of Barnet would also be reputational in the commercial world, and may adversely affect their ability to engage with third parties in the provision of services and systems in the future.

In applying this exemption, 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
- Facilitate the accountability and transparency of public authorities for decisions taken
- Facilitate accountability and transparency in the spending of public money
- Allowing individuals to understand decisions made by public authorities

affecting their lives and, in some cases, assist individuals in challenging those decisions

Factors in favour of withholding

- Council and contractors position in a competitive environment, market sensitivity of information and potential usefulness to competitors;
 - Negative effect on competitiveness if competitors were to have access to information;
 - Need to obtain value for money.
- In all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

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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.

