London Borough of Barnet 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, London, NW9 4EW 12 July 2022 Our ref: 8325248

Thank you for your request received on 15 June 2022, for the following information:

Please can you provide me with the contact names of the Principal Social Workers and Learning and Development Managers (or comparable contact) for both Adults and Children's Social Care.

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. The names of the Principal Social Workers are withheld please see the Refusal Notice below.

Please can you provide me with the contact names of the Principal Social Workers and Learning and Development Managers (or comparable contact) for both Adults and Children's Social Care.

We can however provide you with the details of the learning and Development Heads of Service.

#### **Adults Services**

Harsha Pindoria

Head of Services - Localities

Adults and Health Directorate



London Borough of Barnet, 2 Bristol Avenue, London, NW9 4EW

Tel: 020 8359 2804

Email: harsha.pindoria@barnet.gov.uk

## **Family Services**

Donna Swanberg

Head of Service - Safeguarding, Quality Assurance and Workforce Development

Family Services

London Borough of Barnet, 2 Bristol Avenue, London, NW9 4EW

Tel: 020 8359 5525

Email: donna.swanberg@barnet.gov.uk

## **Refusal Notice Section 40(2)**

Part 1 of Schedule 19 of the Data Protection Act 2018 amends the personal data exemption under section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000(FOI). These are consequential amendments designed to ensure that the correct provisions of the GDPR and the new Act are referenced instead of the now repealed DPA 1998. They will not fundamentally impact when personal data can, and cannot, be disclosed in response to an FOI request.

Personal Information is governed by the Data Protection Act legislation and is defined as any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ('data subject')'. It adds that: an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location number, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person.

The withheld information is exempt because disclosure would contravene the first data protection principle which requires that personal data is processed fairly and lawfully. Disclosure of the requested information would breach this principle and in particular the requirement of fairness.

This is because individuals working for the council have a reasonable expectation of privacy and do not expect that the council would disclose their names or contact details in response to a freedom of information request, especially as they are relatively junior and not in public facing roles. The council's redaction policy states that officers' names and contact details under the level of Assistant Director will generally not be released. All of the posts redacted are under the Assistant Director level.

#### **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. <a href="http://open.barnet.gov.uk/">http://open.barnet.gov.uk/</a>

#### **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 <a href="https://www.ico.org.uk">www.ico.org.uk</a>

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: <a href="mailto:foi@barnet.gov.uk">foi@barnet.gov.uk</a>. 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 <a href="https://www.ico.org.uk">www.ico.org.uk</a>). There is no charge for making an appeal.