

London Borough of Barnet
2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale,
London, NW9 4EW
12 July 2022
Our ref: 8323144

Dear Samantha

Thank you for your request received on 21 June 2022, for the following information:

For the purposes of academic research please can you provide us with answers to the following questions:

- 1. Which agency/organisation/individual provides counselling/therapeutic support to birth parents following adoption?**
- 2. What is the total amount of government funding provided to the Local authority adoption team per annum?**
- 3. From this total amount how much money is allocated to the provision of post adoption counselling/therapeutic support for birth parents?**

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

For the purposes of academic research please can you provide us with answers to the following questions:

- 1. Which agency/organisation/individual provides counselling/therapeutic support to birth parents following adoption?***

Through Adopt London North (RAA) there is provision for independent specialist birth parent counselling and a support group, contracted to PAC-UK currently.

- 2. What is the total amount of government funding provided to the Local authority adoption team per annum?***

London Borough of Barnet's contribution to the regional adoption agency Adopt London North is **£592,688**

3. From this total amount how much money is allocated to the provision of post adoption counselling/therapeutic support for birth parents?

The PAC-UK contract specifically managed by ALN which is detailed in response to question 1 is currently worth £78,000 per annum, however this contract provides services for the whole of ALN, covering 6 boroughs of which Barnet is one, and also provides specialist independent adoption counselling services to adopted adults and to some prospective and current adoptive parents. The contract is not divided into costed provision for different client groups, it is used flexibly between client groups according to demand and monitored by ALN. Therefore it is not possible to say what amount of money specifically is allocated to supporting only birth parents within this contract.

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.