

2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW

2 August 2022
Our ref: 8338856

Thank you for your request received on 12 July 2022, for the following information:

- 1. The number of students in your local authority area receiving free school meals, by year, from 2010.**
- 2. The number of students in your local authority area receiving free school meals, who have been identified to have a mental health concern, by year, from 2010.**

Please provide the data in a table format.

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

Response

I can confirm that the council holds the information you requested. However we are withholding some the information because we consider that the following exemption and exceptions apply to it.

1. The number of students in your local authority area receiving free school meals, by year, from 2010.

Please see the attached spreadsheet. Please note that we don't have data going back to 2010. The data set provided starts from the academic year of 2016/2017.

2. The number of students in your local authority area receiving free school meals, who have been identified to have a mental health concern, by year, from 2010.

Please note, the Local Authority does not correlate data between free school meals and students identified to have mental health. The process to identify this data would invoke the the following exemption:

S12 - Cost limit (Exceeds Appropriate Limit)

We are refusing your request under section 12 because we estimate that compliance with your request will exceed the "appropriate limit" under section 12. The appropriate limit is £450 which is equivalent to 18 hours at £25 per hour. The per hour figure is set by Regulation rather than actual salary paid to any officers handling requests. The appropriate limit includes the time it will take the council to discover if it holds the information requested, to locate it, extract it and collate it as well as putting it into any particular format requested by the requester.

We have calculated that it will take approx 1936 hours to comply with your request. Our calculation is as follows:

We would have to read 11618 children's files for the 2021/2022 academic year. It would take approximately 10 minutes to review each case. 11618 files x 10 minutes = 116,180 minutes (1936 hours). We have therefore decided to refuse this part of your request.

Advice and Assistance

Please consider requesting a smaller size pool of data for this request, such as a year group as opposed to all year groups. It may also be worth requesting the data separately

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.