

London Borough of Barnet,
2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale,
London NW9 4EW
1 September 2022
Our ref: 8373157

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

I note that in the Master Services Agreement between Barnet Council and Dex Property Management, Barnet Council agreed that:

'The Company may grant licences for the purpose of providing the services' (7.2) and 'not at any time to allow any 'Guardians' to take exclusive possession.' (9.11.3.)

Could you please explain why the Council did not give those who rent from DEX, assured shorthold tenancies rather than licences?

I also wish to enquire whether the new Labour authority has any plans to amend these provisions from licences to assured shorthold tenancies.

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

Response

The council holds the information requested and it is attached/ the answers to your questions are below

I note that in the Master Services Agreement between Barnet Council and Dex Property Management, Barnet Council agreed that:

'The Company may grant licences for the purpose of providing the services' (7.2) and 'not at any time to allow any 'Guardians' to take exclusive possession.' (9.11.3.)

Could you please explain why the Council did not give those who rent from DEX, assured shorthold tenancies rather than licences?

The Council makes an agreement with Guardian / caretaker companies to keep secure vacant assets but has no direct agreements with the Guardians who are the clients of these companies.

The Council has an agreement in place with DEX and not DEX's property guardians and would therefore not grant any form of tenancy agreement directly with DEX's guardians.

I also wish to enquire whether the new Labour authority has any plans to amend these provisions from licences to assured shorthold tenancies.

This is not a request for data held that can be answered under FOI and should be made to elected members.

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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.