

London Borough of Barnet
2 Bristol Avenue
Colindale
NW9 4EW
17 January 2023
Our ref: 8817570

Thank you for your request received on 14 December 2022, for the following information:

Hello.

1: Why has the public toilet outside Finchley Central station been removed. Why has it not been replaced.

2: Why is it no longer possible to turn left from Albert Place N3 into Ballards Lane. Why has this road been closed off to cars and parking.

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

Hello.

1: Why has the public toilet outside Finchley Central station been removed. Why has it not been replaced.

The Environment Committee received a report in September 2018 which identified that the contract with JC Decaux to provide the 7 public toilets (Finchley Central location being one of these) was due to end and under that contract the toilet facilities would be removed by JC Decaux. The committee were advised of the estimated costs to re-provide these facilities under a new contract and as the costs to re-provide these facilities were considerable, when viewed in relation to historical usage, a decision was taken to not re-provide as this would not provide good value for money. A change in this provision was proposed with a Community Toilet Scheme being established as a replacement toilet facility. Several local traders have signed up to the scheme and are allowing their toilet facilities to be used by the public – these are identified on the Barnet Website.

2: Why is it no longer possible to turn left from Albert Place N3 into Ballards Lane. Why has this road been closed off to cars and parking.

Albert place was closed in August 2021 to pilot the use of the space for a forthcoming new, permanent public space. The object of this closure was:

To provide a space in which community events can be piloted by the council and the local community Group, Finchley Central Town Team to build and inform a longer-term Cultural Program for the town centre;

(Town Team – Finchley Central (finchleycentraltowncentre.co.uk))

To allow monitoring of traffic numbers.

To inform the permanent designs for the Finchley Public Square.

To host four public engagement events around the Finchley Public Square design proposals, at various times of day / evening.

More can be found out about the permanent works, coming forward later this year on the Finchley Central Town Centre website and on the Engage Barnet platform where we held a public consultation in August and September 2021.

Finchley Square Public Consultation – Project Update – Finchley Central(finchleycentraltowncentre.co.uk)

Finchley Central town centre - a new public square | Engage Barnet

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.