London Borough of Barnet 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale NW9 4EW 30 January 2023 Our ref: 8775680

Thank you for your request received on 30 November 2022, for the following information:

Please provide me with the following information under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act:

Crematoria

- 1 At present, what is the TOTAL crematorium charge (including use of chapel, waiting rooms and attendances, floral decoration, recorded or organ music, scattering/strewing of ashes, medical referee's fee, and environmental surcharge) at each crematorium operated by the council?
- 2 Does the crematorium fee include an 'environmental charge' associated with the cost of mercury abatement, and if so, how much is this environmental charge?
- 3 What was the council's total crematorium charge (as described in Q1):-
- (a) In October 2022
- (b) In October 2021
- (c) In October 2017
- 4 Has the council transferred any crematoria to private sector businesses and if so:-
- (a) Please identify the private operator.
- (b) In what year did this take place?
- (c) Has the council restricted the fees which the private operator may charge, and if so what is the restriction?

Cemeteries

5 How many cemeteries does the council own and operate?

6 How much does the council charge for an adult burial, to include an exclusive right of burial, for the minimum period of use, in a standard lawn grave, and including any interment fee?

7 What was the charge for the same provision of a grave as described in Q6:-

- (a) In October 2022
- (b) In October 2021
- (c) In October 2017



- 8 Are there any private sector cemeteries within the council's boundaries and if so, please identify them and the company which operates them.
- 9 Has the council transferred any cemeteries to private sector businesses and if so:-
- (a) Please identify the private operator.
- (b) In what year did this take place?
- (c) Has the council restricted the fees which the private operator may charge, and if so what is the restriction?
- 10 Please indicate whether the council has had to restrict or cease burials in its cemeteries because of a lack of capacity and if so, what arrangements are there for burials?

Therefore, if it is possible to ascertain within the prescribed time limit, without having to provide a fee for further investigations, please respond in electronic form with all the information above to the following email address: xxx

We have processed this request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Response

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

Crematoria

1 At present, what is the TOTAL crematorium charge (including use of chapel, waiting rooms and attendances, floral decoration, recorded or organ music, scattering/strewing of ashes, medical referee's fee, and environmental surcharge) at each crematorium operated by the council?

£840

2 Does the crematorium fee include an 'environmental charge' associated with the cost of mercury abatement, and if so, how much is this environmental charge?

This is a fully inclusive fee covering items listed above

3 What was the council's total crematorium charge (as described in Q1):-

(a) In October 2022

£763

(b) In October 2021

£734

(c) In October 2017

- 4 Has the council transferred any crematoria to private sector businesses and if so:-
- (a) Please identify the private operator.

RE (Regional Enterprise) Ltd a joint venture company owned 40% by the Council and 51% by Capita. The Crematorium and land remained in the ownership of the Council

- (b) In what year did this take place?
 1 October 2013 to 31st March 2023
- (c) Has the council restricted the fees which the private operator may charge, and if so what is the restriction?

The fees and charges were set by the Council

Cemeteries

5 How many cemeteries does the council own and operate?

2

6 How much does the council charge for an adult burial, to include an exclusive right of burial, for the minimum period of use, in a standard lawn grave, and including any interment fee?

£3120 for 100 year lease plus single depth interment £1042

7 What was the charge for the same provision of a grave as described in Q6:-

(a) In October 2022

£2834 for 100 year lease plus single depth interment £946

(b) In October 2021

£2725 for 100 year lease plus single depth interment £910

(c) In October 2017

£2415 for 100 year lease plus single depth interment £850

8 Are there any private sector cemeteries within the council's boundaries and if so, please identify them and the company which operates them.

Information not held but readily accessible on the internet

New Southgate Crematorium & Cemetery, North London
(newsouthgatecemetery.co.uk)

Wood Green Cemetery | Dignity Crematoria Ltd (dignityfunerals.co.uk)

9 Has the council transferred any cemeteries to private sector businesses and if so:-

- (a) Please identify the private operator.
- (b) In what year did this take place?
- (c) Has the council restricted the fees which the private operator may charge, and if so what is the restriction?

See above, same answer as Q4

10 Please indicate whether the council has had to restrict or cease burials in its cemeteries because of a lack of capacity and if so, what arrangements are there for burials?

No

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.