

London Borough Of Barnet
2 Bristol Avenue
31 January 2023
Our ref: 8932532

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

- 1. Please list the number of Companies used for Semi Independent Living Services and or Supported Living for 16+ Semi-independent children**
- 2. What is the weekly charge per company to the council per child for the Property Cost and Management Services for Semi Independent Living Services (24 Hour Units) 16+ Semi-independent children dealing with ADHD conditions or other emotional or mental issues**
- 3. What is the weekly charge per company to the council per child for the Property Cost and Management Services for Semi Independent Living Services 16+ dealing with mental health issues.**
- 4. Please provide the number of 16+ with mental health issues, that have been placed in a semi-independent living accommodation as at 31 April each year from 2019 - 2023**
- 5. Please provide the number of looked after children being provided semi-independent living services, aged 16+ as at 31 March each year from 2019-2023**
- 6. Please provide the number of looked after children over the age of 16 as at 31 March each year from 2019-2023**
- 7. What is the highest Weekly amount paid For Semi ' Independent Living 24 Hour shared accommodation for age 16+? Dealing with emotional and mental issues**
- 8. What is the highest amount paid for semi-independent living services and Supported Living Service ADHD conditions or other emotional or mental issues (24 hour units?)**
- 9. Could you please inform me of the procurement process for semi-independent living services for young people aged 16+ years of age?**
- 11. As a new provider for semi-independent living services for young people, how would a company begin to provide services for the Local Authority?**

12. Once approved as a service provider for your Local Authority, how long does it take for a company to begin to receive placement referrals from the Local Authority?

13. How many young people do you currently have awaiting semi-independent accommodation?

14. Who should be approached within the council to discuss spot purchase commissioning, service provision, rates and referrals for accommodating and/or supporting care leavers/ aged 16+years old? Who is the specific named point of contact?

15. Who should be approached within the council to discuss spot purchase commissioning, service provision, rates and referrals for accommodating and/or supported living for children care age 16 under? Who is the specific named point of contact?

16. Could you please confirm currently what supported living unit is needed within your borough? I.e. Semi-independent living 16+, ADHD conditions or other emotional or mental issues

17. Could you provide your list of requirements of services and expectations for semi-independent living?

18. Could you provide you list of requirements of services and expectations for LAC 16-24

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 of the information requested because we consider that the exemptions below applies to it.

1. Please list the number of Companies used for Semi Independent Living Services and or Supported Living for 16+ Semi-independent children

38

2. What is the weekly charge per company to the council per child for the Property Cost and Management Services for Semi Independent Living Services (24 Hour Units) 16+ Semi-independent children dealing with ADHD conditions or other emotional or mental issues

Please see S43 exemption below

3. What is the weekly charge per company to the council per child for the Property Cost and Management Services for Semi Independent Living Services 16+ dealing with mental health issues.

Please see S43 exemption below

4. Please provide the number of 16+ with mental health issues, that have been placed in a semi-independent living accommodation as at 31 April each year from 2019 - 2023

Please see S12 exemption below

5. Please provide the number of looked after children being provided semi-independent living services, aged 16+ as at 31 March each year from 2019-2023

Numbers of 16-17 year old LAC in supported accommodation	Mar-19	Mar-20	Mar-21	Mar-22	Mar-23
	47	45	66	60	Not available

6. Please provide the number of looked after children over the age of 16 as at 31 March each year from 2019-2023

Numbers of LAC by age	Mar-19	Mar-20	Mar-21	Mar-22	Mar-23
16+	115	119	135	124	Not available

7. What is the highest Weekly amount paid For Semi ' Independent Living 24 Hour shared accommodation for age 16+? Dealing with emotional and mental issues
£11,570 per week

8. What is the highest amount paid for semi-independent living services and Supported Living Service ADHD conditions or other emotional or mental issues (24 hour units?)
We do not hold this information specifically for ADHD or other 'emotional or mental issues' (24 hour units)

9. Could you please inform me of the procurement process for semi-independent living services for young people aged 16+ years of age?
Barnet is part of the Commissioning Alliance DPV for semi independent provision.

11. As a new provider for semi-independent living services for young people, how would a company begin to provide services for the Local Authority?
Providers can join the DPV, further information can be found here:

Information on the DPV: [Providers - Commissioning Alliance](#)

Commissioning Portal for providers interested to register: [CFSuite \(esourcingportal.com\)](#)

From 2024, all supported accommodation placements for 16 and 17 year olds must comply with the Ofsted regulations. We recommend that you register when the process opens later this year and then notify our Placements Team duty.placements@barnet.gov.uk of any registered local provision.

12. Once approved as a service provider for your Local Authority, how long does it take for a company to begin to receive placement referrals from the Local Authority?
Referrals to providers are based on needs of the young person, including location, with no guaranteed volume.

13. How many young people do you currently have awaiting semi-independent accommodation?

Please see S40(2) exemption below

14. Who should be approached within the council to discuss spot purchase commissioning, service provision, rates and referrals for accommodating and/or supporting care leavers/ aged 16+years old? Who is the specific named point of contact?

Owen Chiguvare Owen.Chiguvare@Barnet.gov.uk

15. Who should be approached within the council to discuss spot purchase commissioning, service provision, rates and referrals for accommodating and/or supported living for children care age 16 under? Who is the specific named point of contact?

Owen Chiguvare Owen.Chiguvare@Barnet.gov.uk

16. Could you please confirm currently what supported living unit is needed within your borough? I.e. Semi-independent living 16+, ADHD conditions or other emotional or mental issues

High needs supported accommodation for Autism and solo placements for vulnerable adolescents

17. Could you provide your list of requirements of services and expectations for semi-independent living?

We would require providers to meet the requirements of the contract specification within the DPV which sets out accommodation, support and quality standards. See response to Q11.

Once the regulations for supported accommodation are launched, we would also require providers to meet the standards outlined in Ofsted's new framework as a minimum. See attached draft guide to supported accommodation regulations including Quality Standard and via the link: [Introducing regulations for supported accommodation provision - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/introducing-regulations-for-supported-accommodation-provision)

18. Could you provide your list of requirements of services and expectations for LAC 16-24

The contractual requirements of the contract specification within the DPV

Our accommodation standards are in line with Ofsted's proposed core Quality Standards for 16-17 year olds. See response to Q17.

Support requirements for those 18+ would be in accordance with need. Providers delivering care for 18+ would also need to register with CQC.

Refusal Notice

S40(2) identifying individuals through statistical tables (5 or less)

In some instances, owing to the low numbers of individuals involved (5 or less) disclosing this data may make it possible for individuals to be identified. This information is therefore exempt by virtue of section 40 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), as disclosure of this information to the public generally, in the Council's view, would not be consistent with data protection principles in Article

5 of the General Data Protection Regulations. This is an absolute exemption, and the public interest test does not apply.

S43 - Commercial interests

We have concluded that this information is exempt under section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) because the disclosure of this information would be prejudicial to the London Borough of Barnet's and partners commercial interests. This is a qualified exemption, and the public interest test applies. We have considered the public interest in the disclosure of this information. These factors include the importance of transparency in the decision-making process relating to the spending of public money to ensure that procurement processes are conducted in an open and honest way. It is also important for the public to see taxpayers' money being used effectively and public authorities getting value for money. We have also considered the public interest in withholding this information. If disclosed, the information will not reflect the individual circumstances of any particular case which a provider will have been dealing with and may therefore present an inaccurate picture of any provider's performance. Disclosure of this information may therefore impact upon the interests of the council and future commercial arrangements with providers. It is not in the public interest to impact upon these commercial interests on the basis of limited information and an inaccurate picture. For these reasons we consider that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

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.

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.