

London Borough of Barnet
2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale,
London, NW9 4EW
21 March 2023
Our ref: 9228864

Thank you for your request received on 20 February 2023, for the following information:

I'm writing to make an open government request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I'd like to know:

- 1. How many children's playgrounds were managed in the borough in each year from calendar year 2018 to 2022?**
- 2. How many recorded injuries to children at playgrounds in the borough that occurred in each year from calendar year 2018 to 2022? Please also break down:**
 - a. The description of the injuries (what kind of injuries?)**
 - b. The cause/s of the injuries, including equipment involved**
 - c. The name of the playground where the injuries took place**
- 3. How much compensation or out of court settlement was paid out per injury that occurred at playgrounds in the borough in each year from calendar year 2018 to 2022?**
- 4. Measures taken to prevent similar accidents from occurring again in the future.**

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

Response

I can confirm that London Borough of Barnet holds the information you requested.

However, we believe that the exemptions detailed below apply to some of this information and this is withheld. Please see the Refusal Notice S40(2) below.

I'm writing to make an open government request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I'd like to know:

1. How many children's playgrounds were managed in the borough in each year from calendar year 2018 to 2022?

There are 50 playgrounds in the borough.

2. How many recorded injuries to children at playgrounds in the borough that occurred in each year from calendar year 2018 to 2022?

There have been 7 recorded injuries within this timeframe.

Please also break down:

- a. The description of the injuries (what kind of injuries?)**
- b. The cause/s of the injuries, including equipment involved**
- c. The name of the playground where the injuries took place**

Please see the table below:

Incident Date	Location	Incident details (personal data removed - see refusal notice below)
28/11/2018	Bethune Park Playground	Fall (ditch), broken leg
16/08/2020	Sunny Hill Park	Slip (climbing frame), broken ankle
30/03/2021	Tudor Park	Fall (climbing frame)
22/04/2021	Market Place Playground	Skin reaction (tarmac), skin peeled
26/07/2021	Mill Hill Park Playground	Fall (climbing frame), broken elbow
27/05/2022	Dollis Valley Playground, by Argyle Road	Hit by gate
28/05/2022	Dollis Valley Playground, by Argyle Road	Hit by gate

3. How much compensation or out of court settlement was paid out per injury that occurred at playgrounds in the borough in each year from calendar year 2018 to 2022?

2018 Nil

2019 Nil

2020 £6,469

2021 Nil

2022 Nil

4. Measures taken to prevent similar accidents from occurring again in the future.

Following the report of two accidents in Riverside Walk (Dollis Valley playground) related to the self-closing gates an inspection was undertaken and new gates were ordered and installed. For other accidents the equipment was not deemed faulty and so no mitigations were required.

Refusal Notice

S40(2) identification of claimants

We have also redacted information about the individuals other information that may identify them 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 the data protection principle found in Article 5.1(a) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) lawfully, transparently and fairly. We have considered whether disclosure is lawful and fair and whilst it may be lawful under Article 6.1(f) GDPR (legitimate interests) it would not be fair to the individuals concerned who would not expect the names of junior employees to be disclosed as part of such a request.

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.