

London Borough of Barnet
2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale NW9 4EW
26 April 2023
Our ref: 9552457

Thank you for your request received on 6 April 2023, for the following information:

Dear Sir/Madam,

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

With regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty, does your decision-making regarding the provision of food take into account the fact that veganism is a protected characteristic for the purpose of the Equality Act 2010? Yes/No

How many vegan hot and cold meal options do you offer:

In your own local authority canteen every day (if you have one)? 0, 1, 2, 3 or more. Please also express this as a proportion of the overall number of options offered.

In external events catering (if applicable)? Eg: 0, 1, 2, 3 or more. Please also express this as a proportion of the overall number of options offered.

Is a requirement for providing vegan hot and cold meal options included within the catering procurement contracts you issue for other catering provision for which you are responsible including schools, leisure centres, care homes, libraries, and any other public buildings? Yes/No

Has your organisation taken any action to reduce meat and dairy consumption in order to meet environmental goals?

- **If yes, please detail what actions have been taken, e.g. 100% or 50% plant-based food options offered.**
- **If no, do you have ambitions to take action in this area, eg through setting meat reduction targets? Yes/no, if yes please detail what ambitions you have set out.**

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

With regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty, does your decision-making regarding the provision of food take into account the fact that veganism is a protected characteristic for the purpose of the Equality Act 2010?

No

How many vegan hot and cold meal options do you offer:

In your own local authority canteen every day (if you have one)? 0, 1, 2, 3 or more. Please also express this as a proportion of the overall number of options offered.

Information not held.

In external events catering (if applicable)? Eg: 0, 1, 2, 3 or more. Please also express this as a proportion of the overall number of options offered.

Barnet Education and Learning Service (BELS) provide catering when running external events through its traded services team. For large events such as conferences, catering always provide vegan options as part of their standard buffet menu. For smaller scale events, delegates can pre-emptively specify their preference for a vegan meal, which would be supplied.

We do not hold this information regarding schools as they purchase catering services from many different companies. You will need to directly contact schools. Please see the following link for school contacts [Schools | Barnet Council](#).

Is a requirement for providing vegan hot and cold meal options included within the catering procurement contracts you issue for other catering provision for which you are responsible including schools, leisure centres, care homes, libraries, and any other public buildings? Yes/No

No

Has your organisation taken any action to reduce meat and dairy consumption in order to meet environmental goals?

No

· ***If yes, please detail what actions have been taken, e.g. 100% or 50% plant-based food options offered.***

N/A

· ***If no, do you have ambitions to take action in this area, eg through setting meat reduction targets? Yes/no, if yes please detail what ambitions you***

have set out.

In our Barnet Food Plan 2022-2027 we set out our ambitions in this area:

- Map existing food procurement contracts held by Barnet. Assess current contracts for commitment to buying locally and/or shortening their supply chain, to providing healthy food, and openness to providing more plant-based options.
- Work with the Procurement team to develop time-bound and measurable targets for healthier and sustainable food for future contracts, and to work with current suppliers to increase nutritional value and sustainability of food provided by the council

You can read the Barnet Food Plan here: [Barnet-Food-Plan-2022-2027.pdf](#)

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.

