

London Borough Of Barnet
2 Bristol Avenue
21 April 2023
Our ref: 9325188

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

- 1) In the financial year 2021/22 what was the outturn for provided foster care?**
- 2) In the financial year 2021/22 what was the outturn for purchased foster care?**
- b) The average proportion of foster care placements in the financial year 2021/22, in percentage terms, that were purchased from independent agencies**
- 3) What is the total number of looked after children?**
- 4) The number of looked after children who are being accommodated via purchased fostering service,**
 - b) The exact number of children in each of the contracts held by a purchased fostering service, specifying the agencies used.**
- 5) The number of looked after children who are being fostered via the local authority provider**
- 6) The number of looked after children who are placed outside of the local authority**
- 7) The average number of registered Foster carers who receive a fee from the local authority provider between 14th December 2019 to 14th December 2022, broken down by years.**
- 8) The number of foster carers de-registered from the local authority provider between 14th December 2019 to 14th December 2022, broken down by years.**

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 exemption detailed below applies to some information and this is withheld. Please see the Refusal Notice below.

1) In the financial year 2021/22 what was the outturn for provided foster care?
£1,704,330.71

2) In the financial year 2021/22 what was the outturn for purchased foster care?
£3,862,471.60

b) The average proportion of foster care placements in the financial year 2021/22, in percentage terms, that were purchased from independent agencies
29.4% of all looked after children and 44% of those in foster care

3) What is the total number of looked after children?
327

4) The number of looked after children who are being accommodated via purchased fostering service,
97

b) The exact number of children in each of the contracts held by a purchased fostering service, specifying the agencies used.
Please see refusal notice below

5) The number of looked after children who are being fostered via the local authority provider
114

6) The number of looked after children who are placed outside of the local authority
153

7) The average number of registered Foster carers who receive a fee from the local authority provider between 14th December 2019 to 14th December 2022, broken down by years.

14/12/2019 til 13/12/2020 - 83

14/12/2022 til 13/12/2021 - 87

14/12/2021 til 13/12/2022 - 83

8) The number of foster carers de-registered from the local authority provider between 14th December 2019 to 14th December 2022, broken down by years.

2019 - Nil

2020 - Please see refusal notice below

2021 - Nil

2022 - Please see refusal notice below

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

The information you require has been provided but some information has been withheld. This is because 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.

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.

