

2 Bristol Avenue
Colindale
London
NW9 4EW
15 May 2023
Our ref: 9590642

Thank you for your request received on 18 April 2023, for the following information:

Please see the following freedom of information request relating to local housing allowances and the benefit cap.

Requested information:

- 1. Can you provide data on the number of residents in the private rented sector in your borough who are in receipt of housing benefit or the housing element of universal credit?**
- 2. Of these residents, can you provide data on the number of residents whose rent exceeds the local housing allowance levels?**
- 3. Can you provide data of the number of residents in the private rented sector whose housing benefit or housing element of UC is capped because of the benefit cap?**

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

Response

I am writing to inform you that we have searched our records and although we hold some of the information requested, some of the information you requested is not held by London Borough of Barnet.

We do not hold information in relation to the housing element of Universal credit. The answers provided below are in relation to Housing benefit claimants only.

Please see the following freedom of information request relating to local housing allowances and the benefit cap.

- 1. Can you provide data on the number of residents in the private rented sector in your borough who are in receipt of housing benefit or the housing element of universal credit?***

There are 7548 private sector residents in receipt of Housing Benefit.

2. Of these residents, can you provide data on the number of residents whose rent exceeds the local housing allowance levels?

There are 2874 private sector Housing benefit claims where the rent exceeds the LHA rate.

3. Can you provide data of the number of residents in the private rented sector whose housing benefit or housing element of UC is capped because of the benefit cap?

142 private sector Housing benefits claims are subject to the Benefit Cap.

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.