

London Borough of Barnet  
2 Bristol Avenue,  
Colindale,  
London, NW9 4EW  
17 May 2023  
Our ref: 9731861

Thank you for your request received on 11 May 2023, for the following information:

**We are considering moving close to Brunswick Park but have read about Crematoriums being significant sources of pollution. We have a young baby so are keen to know how bad Southgate Crematorium is from an air pollution point of view.**

**Can you please share the data you have available on the pollution generated by Southgate Crematorium, including harmful air pollutants and mercury?**

**Do you also have any data available on what distance this pollutants travel?**

**It would also be great to know how old is this data, how regularly it is monitored, and if there are any plans to improve this.**

We have processed this request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

## **Response**

I can confirm that London Borough of Barnet holds the information you requested. However, we believe that the exceptions detailed below apply to some and this is withheld. Please see the Refusal Notice below.

The site is regulated under LAPPC (Local Air Pollution Prevention and Control) and is inspected twice a year by our Environmental Health Team. The site also submits monthly cremator reports which gives us information on the efficiency at which the cremator is operating such as temperature and any high particulate alerts. The site is operated at a high standard with no breaches of its permit in 2022-2023. It is a condition of the permit to report any breaches in emissions and we have not received any complaints of pollution from nearby residents.

They do not operate a Mercury Abated system; however they are a member CAMEO (Crematoria Abatement Of Mercury Emissions Organisation). This is a Mercury Burden sharing scheme and as Mercury is a global/international issue it is not

considered at local level and more holistically. Further Information is available on CAMEO - Crematoria Abatement of Mercury Emissions Organisation ([cameoonline.org.uk](http://cameoonline.org.uk)). The main risk associated with Mercury is its accumulation within food chains especially that of aquatic food chains due to burning of Mercury containing materials such as Coal and in the case of cremations Mercury Amalgam Fillings from dentistry. I have provided further detailed information from WHO on Mercury in the environment and its impact on health: Mercury and health ([who.int](http://who.int)) .

### **R6(1)(b) - Material already published**

Under Regulation 6(1)(b) of EIR, we are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is already reasonably accessible to you by other means.

Barnet's Annual Air quality status report is available is available using the following link: Air quality monitoring | Barnet Council.

<https://www.barnet.gov.uk/environmental-problems/air-quality/air-quality-monitoring>

Monitoring data within the area of new Southgate does not exhibit exceedances of statutory limits and overall air-quality is improving within the borough. There may also be further information regarding nearby air quality provided by neighbouring councils Enfield and Haringey which should be available on their website.

### **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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.ico.org.uk)). There is no charge for making an appeal.