

London Borough of Barnet, 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9
4EW

7 February 2024
Our ref: 11441280

Thank you for your request received on 24 January 2024, for the following information:

Dear Council,

This freedom of information request concerns the use of agency social work teams -- meaning when teams of social workers are offered to local authorities by agencies and hired, rather than individual social workers according to need.

Could you provide me with:

1) The number of agency social work project teams employed by the local authority in (a) children's services and (b) adult social services. Please answer for each of the five financial years:

2018-19

2019-21

2020-21

2021-22

2022-23

If possible, please include information on the number of social workers and managers on each agency team, the length of time each team was commissioned for, and the specific task, if any, that the team was commissioned for.

2) The spend by the local authority on project social work teams commissioned from agencies for (a) children's services and (b) adult social services in each of the financial years

2018-19

2019-21

2020-21

2021-22

2022-23

If you need any additional information to complete the request, please do not hesitate to get in touch. If it is not possible to include all the information requested, please provide the information that is available.

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

Caring for people, our places and the planet

Response

The council holds the information requested and it is attached/ the answers to your questions are below

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Barnet Council does not use agency social work teams as described.
We recruit individually.

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.