

London Borough of Barnet  
2 Bristol Avenue  
Colindale  
NW9 4EW  
19 February 2024  
Our ref: 11445180

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

**Dear Sir/Madam**

**Please can you provide me with the following information under the Freedom Of Information Act 2000:-**

**The figures for each of the following financial years 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2022-23, 2023-24 (to current date)**

- 1) What is the total value of unpaid council tax debt owed to the council at the end of each financial year, To current date for 2023-24?**
- 2) What is the total value of unpaid council tax debt owed to the council by a social housing provider at the end of each financial year, To current date for 2023-24?**
- 3) Please list the total value of unpaid council tax debt owed to the council by each individual social housing provider at the end of each financial year, To current date for 2023-24?**
- 4) For each year what was the total value of social housing provider council tax debt accrued in the 12 month period, To current date for 2023-24?**
- 5) What is the council policy around court summons and bailiff action for social housing providers with outstanding debt?**
- 6) What is the council policy around issuing class B exemption. Does the council automatically award a social housing provider, does the social housing provider have to request once per property or every account change?**

**Yours faithfully**

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

**Response**

The council holds the information requested and the answers to your questions are below:

***Please can you provide me with the following information under the Freedom Of Information Act 2000:-***

***The figures for each of the following financial years 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2022-23, 2023-24 (to current date)***

**1) What is the total value of unpaid council tax debt owed to the council at the end of each financial year, To current date for 2023-24?**

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Balance Outstanding</b>
2017-18	3,869,647.99
2018-19	4,609,519.82
2019-20	5,887,551.77
2020-21	7,035,149.54
2021-22	9,003,856.39
2022-23	10,500,998.45
2023-24	27,859,723.32

Please note the figures include Council Tax summons costs.

**2) What is the total value of unpaid council tax debt owed to the council by a social housing provider at the end of each financial year, To current date for 2023-24?**

We do not have a social housing indicator and therefore unable to run reports specifically for social housing providers.

**3) Please list the total value of unpaid council tax debt owed to the council by each individual social housing provider at the end of each financial year, To current date for 2023-24?**

We do not have a social housing indicator and therefore unable to run reports specifically for social housing providers.

**4) For each year what was the total value of social housing provider council tax debt accrued in the 12 month period, To current date for 2023-24?**

We do not have a social housing indicator and therefore unable to run reports specifically for social housing providers.

**5) What is the council policy around court summons and bailiff action for social housing providers with outstanding debt?**

There is no policy relating to recovery action for social housing providers, the normal recovery cycle will apply.

**6) What is the council policy around issuing class B exemption. Does the council automatically award a social housing provider, does the social housing provider have to request once per property or every account change?**

If proof of charity status has been provided, this would be kept on file and the class B exemption would be awarded once we have been notified the property is vacant.

#### **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.