

London Borough of Barnet
2 Bristol Avenue,
Colindale NW9 4EW
20 February 2024
Our ref: 11617944

Thank you for your request received on 20 February 2024, for the following information:

I hope this message finds you well. I am reaching out to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. My inquiry pertains to essential datasets related to planning and development, which I believe are held by your office. Specifically, I am interested in obtaining the following in shapefile (.shp) format:

- 1. Settlement Boundaries: Defined perimeters that delineate areas where new development is generally permissible, contingent upon compliance with additional policies outlined in the Plan concerning the Council's developmental guidelines and restrictions.**
- 2. Article 4 Directions: Specific legal tools used by local planning authorities to restrict permitted development rights in an area, primarily to protect the character of conservation areas or other significant architectural or historical significance.**
- 3. Conservation Areas: Designated zones notable for their special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.**
- 4. Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA): A comprehensive evaluation conducted to identify suitable land for housing development, aiming to ensure a sufficient supply to meet anticipated housing needs over a specific period.**

Could you please provide these datasets in the requested format at your earliest convenience?

I appreciate your assistance and attention to this request.

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

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 have provided answers to your request below.

1. Settlement Boundaries: Defined perimeters that delineate areas where new development is generally permissible, contingent upon compliance with additional policies outlined in the Plan concerning the Council's developmental guidelines and restrictions.

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

Therefore regulation 12(4)(a) applies to your request. Regulation 12(4)(a) provides an exception to the duty to disclose information when information is not held.

This terminology is unfamiliar to the Council. There are no references to settlement boundaries in the Local Plan.

2. Article 4 Directions: Specific legal tools used by local planning authorities to restrict permitted development rights in an area, primarily to protect the character of conservation areas or other significant architectural or historical significance.

Please see links below.

Refusal Notice

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

[Article4 Direction Areas | Barnet Open Data](#)

[Article4 Direction Documentation | Barnet Open Data](#)

3. Conservation Areas: Designated zones notable for their special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.

Please see links below.

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[Conservation Areas | Barnet Open Data](#)

[Conservation Areas Documentation | Barnet Open Data](#)

4. Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA): A comprehensive evaluation conducted to identify suitable land for housing development, aiming to ensure a sufficient supply to meet anticipated housing needs over a specific period.

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

Therefore regulation 12(4)(a) applies to your request. Regulation 12(4)(a) provides an exception to the duty to disclose information when information is not held.

Please make your request to the Greater London Authority (GLA) as they were the ones who conducted the SHLA. [Freedom of information | London City Hall](#)

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.