

London Borough of Barnet
2 Bristol Avenue
Colindale, NW9 4EW
13 June 2024
Our ref: 12181600

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

- 1. Does the local authority currently use Residential Family Assessment Centres?**
- 2. If so, how many are currently registered within your borough?**
- 3. Is there a recommended service providers for Residential Family Assessment Centres list?**
- 4. How would a new provider for Residential Family Assessment Centres make an introduction?**
- 5. On average how many referrals were made to Resident Family Assessment Centres by the local authority within the boroughs administrative area for tax year April 1st 2022 to March 31st 2023?**
- 6. What was the average wait time to place a family in a Residential Family Assessment Centre from April 1st 2022 to March 31st 2023?**
- 7. What is the average duration of stay at a Residential Family Assessment Centre? (No specific year required)**

- 8. What is the average cost per week to place a parent and one child? Two parents and one child and larger family groups?**
- 9. For payments between Local Authorities and service providers, are payments made in advance, during the stay of the families or upon completion of their placement?**
- 10. What is the preferred method of payment between the local authority and the Residential Family Assessment Centre?**
- 11. Does your local authority offer any type of support either directly or via local housing associations with regards to obtaining a property / properties for Residential Family Assessment Centres?**
- 12. Has the boroughs social services/local authority had to place a families out side of the county due to lack of availability of residential family assessment centres within the borough for tax year April 1st 2022 to 23?**

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 have provided answers to your request below.

1. Does the local authority currently use Residential Family Assessment Centres?

Yes

2. If so, how many are currently registered within your borough?

<5 (Counts of 5 and below have been suppressed due to our data protocols)

3. Is there a recommended service providers for Residential Family Assessment Centres list?

Barnet is part of a Pan London contract which is led by the Commissioning Alliance in Ealing

4. How would a new provider for Residential Family Assessment Centres make an introduction?

To find out more about the Commissioning Alliance list, contact CommissioningAllianceDPVs@barnet.gov.uk

5. On average how many referrals were made to Resident Family Assessment Centres by the local authority within the boroughs administrative area for tax year April 1st 2022 to March 31st 2023?

Referrals counts are not available. 19 placements were made in this time frame.

6. What was the average wait time to place a family in a Residential Family Assessment Centre from April 1st 2022 to March 31st 2023?

Not available

7. What is the average duration of stay at a Residential Family Assessment Centre? (No specific year required)

14 weeks 2022-2023

8. What is the average cost per week to place a parent and one child? Two parents and one child and larger family groups?

Costs for additional children and parents vary considerably. Below are the average weekly rates under for the contract we access, these exclude additional costs.

One parent & one child	£4600
Additional adult	£593
Additional child (per child)	£492

9. For payments between Local Authorities and service providers, are payments made in advance, during the stay of the families or upon completion of their placement?

Payments are invoiced monthly

10. What is the preferred method of payment between the local authority and the Residential Family Assessment Centre?

Monthly via invoice, we have a provider payment portal

11. Does your local authority offer any type of support either directly or via local housing associations with regards to obtaining a property / properties for Residential Family Assessment Centres?

No, it is the responsibility of providers to source properties.

12. Has the boroughs social services/local authority had to place a families out side of the county due to lack of availability of residential family assessment centres within the borough for tax year April 1st 2022 to 23?

Yes we have placed out of borough during this time frame. There are only two units in borough.

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.