

2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW

7 November 2024
Our ref: 13281148

Thank you for your request received on 1 November 2024, for the following information:

- 1. Does your local authority outsource the drafting of EHCPs to external providers?**
- 2. If so, which company or companies are contracted to provide these services, and are you in any current contract with the supplier?**
- 3. What is the cost charged by each provider for the drafting of EHCPs?**
- 4. For what duration have these outsourcing arrangements been in place?**
- 5. How do outsourced companies go onto the Council's framework in order to be used?**

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

1. Does your local authority outsource the drafting of EHCPs to external providers?

Yes, however they are used intermittently.

2. If so, which company or companies are contracted to provide these services, and are you in any current contract with the supplier?

The company contracted to provide this service is called Enhance. Yes we have a contract.

3. What is the cost charged by each provider for the drafting of EHCPs?

£80 + VAT

4. For what duration have these outsourcing arrangements been in place?

5+ years

5. How do outsourced companies go onto the Council's framework in order to be used?

In respect to the external provider, Enhance, this is a BELS contract rather than part of the Council's framework.

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.