

London Borough of Barnet,  
2 Bristol Avenue,  
Colindale, NW9 4EW  
21 November 2024  
Our ref: 13417012

Thank you for your request received on 18 November 2024, for the following information:

**This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act regarding the council's spending on consultancies. We seek this information to promote transparency and ensure public funds are spent effectively.**

**Please provide the following information, broken down by the financial years 2021/22, 2022/23, and 2023/24:**

**1. Total consultancy spending**

o The total amount spent by the council on consultancy services for each financial year.

**2. Breakdown by firm**

o A breakdown by firm of consultancy payments made by the council in each financial year. If providing details for each firm exceeds the cost limit, please provide whatever information can be provided within the limit, such as by focusing on firms with total payments exceeding £10,000.

**3. Council policy on consultancy payments**

o A copy or summary of the council's policy, if one exists, regarding limits or guidelines on payments to external consultants, including rate caps or other criteria used to determine acceptable consultancy costs.

**4. Highest individual consultancy payments**

o The highest individual payments made to consultants. Please provide:

The largest total payment(s) made to an individual consultant or consultancy firm in each financial year.

The highest hourly or daily rate paid to an individual consultant or firm during each financial year. If feasible, please specify the context (such as the nature of the work or project) for these highest rates.

**Definition:** By 'consultancy spending,' we refer to payments made to organizations or individuals brought in to provide expert advice or support in implementing specific projects or initiatives.

**If fulfilling this request in its entirety exceeds the cost limit set in Section 12, please provide advice under the Section 16 duty to assist, and suggest ways to narrow the scope. If any portions of the request fall under exemptions, please provide as much information as possible within the parameters of the Act.**

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

## **Response**

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

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All information is available online at:

<https://open.barnet.gov.uk/>

## **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.