

29 January 2025
Our ref: 13436604

Thank you for your request received on 22 November 2024, for the following information:

. Playground Closures:

1.The number of playgrounds permanently closed.

2. New Playgrounds:

The number of new playgrounds opened.

3. Reports of Vandalism:

The total number of vandalism reports in playgrounds.

If available, provide details of the types of vandalism reported (e.g., graffiti, damage to equipment).

4. Number of Injuries in Play Parks:

The total number of injuries reported in playgrounds, broken down by type of injury.

If available, a breakdown of injuries by specific equipment (e.g., swings, slides, climbing frames).

5. Inspection Frequency:

The frequency with which playgrounds are inspected by the council.

If any of this information is publicly available, I would appreciate it if you could direct me to the relevant resources. Please let me know if this request exceeds the cost limit for FOI requests, and I can refine the scope.

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

. *Playground Closures:*

The number of playgrounds permanently closed.

Answer: 0

2. *New Playgrounds:*

The number of new playgrounds opened.

Answer: 1

3. *Reports of Vandalism:*

***The total number of vandalism reports in playgrounds.
If available, provide details of the types of vandalism reported (e.g., graffiti, damage to equipment).***

Answer: In Greenspaces the complete data set is not recorded. Grounds Maintenance will hold some of this information. Grounds do not hold this data but we have an issue with dogs, biting into and damaging pieces of playground equipment such as swing seats, zip wire seats etc. We also occasionally have graffiti

4. *Number of Injuries in Play Parks:*

***The total number of injuries reported in playgrounds, broken down by type of injury.
If available, a breakdown of injuries by specific equipment (e.g., swings, slides, climbing frames).***

Answer: Information not held.

5. *Inspection Frequency:*

The frequency with which playgrounds are inspected by the council.

Answer: Visual inspections of the playgrounds are carried out on a weekly basis, Operational inspection are carried out at least once a month but usually twice. Annual inspections (external) are carried out once a year.

If any of this information is publicly available, I would appreciate it if you could direct me to the relevant resources. Please let me know if this request exceeds the cost limit for FOI requests, and I can refine the scope.

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.