

Addendum: Council, Referral Paper on Fees and Charges 2022/23 & 2023/24

Update: Results of the Fees and Charges Consultation and subsequent required updates regarding equalities.

This addendum provides an update on the consultation findings referenced at paragraph 6.9.3 to 6.9.8 and subsequent updates to the equalities section in paragraphs in 6.7 of the Council, Referral Paper on Fees and Charges 2022/23 & 2023/24

The updates reflect the results of the consultation findings which closed on 26 October after the referral paper was published for Council. The consultation findings have also been incorporated into the EqIA (Appendix A).

Consultation and Engagement (update for paragraph 6.9.3 to 6.9.8)

Fees and Charges 2022/23 & 2023/24 Consultation findings

1.1.1 The council performed a consultation on the proposed Fees and Charges from 28th September to 25th October 2022.

Consultation approach

- The consultation was published on Engage Barnet.
- The consultation asked for views on all the proposed fees and charges set out in Appendix A.
- Respondent's views were gathered via an online questionnaire.
- The questionnaire also included questions on protected characteristics to help inform the EqIA.
- Paper copies and other alternative formats of the consultation were made available on request.
- The consultation was promoted via the council's residents e-newsletter, Communities Together Network Newsletter and on Twitter.

Response to the consultation

1.1.2 A total of three questionnaires were completed – all were submitted online.

Profile of response

1.1.3 Table 1 show that all three responses were from Barnet residents.

Table 1: Profile of response

Stakeholder	Response	
	%	Base
A Barnet resident	100%	3
A person who works in the London Borough of Barnet area	0%	0
Barnet business	0%	0

Representing a voluntary/community organisation	0%	0
Representing a public-sector organisation	0%	0
Other	0%	0
Prefer not to say	0%	0
Total	100%	3

Consultation results

1.1.4 Respondents were invited to write in their views on the proposed Fees and Charges. The three responses are listed below:

- *Very good*
- *Please do not increase parking charges.*
- *I think it wrong that the council are increasing fees in line with inflation when residents are struggling with living costs*

Profile of response by protected characteristics

1.1.5 The council is required by law (the Equality Act 2010) to pay due regard to equalities in eliminating unlawful discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity and fostering good relations between people from different groups.

1.1.6 The protected characteristics identified in the Equality Act 2010 are age, disability, ethnicity, gender, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy, maternity, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

1.1.7 To assist us in complying with the duty under the Equality Act 2010 we asked the respondents to provide equalities monitoring data and explained that collecting this information will help us understand the needs of our different communities and that all the information provided will be treated in the strictest confidence and will be stored securely in accordance with our responsibilities under data protection legislation (such as the General Data Protection Regulation or the Data Protection Act 2018).

1.1.8 Table 2 below shows the profile of these who answered these questions. However, due to the small response it has not been possible to draw out any significant findings in terms of the protected characteristics and the consultation responses.

Table 2: Protected Characteristic, profile of those that completed the questionnaire

Protected Characteristic	Response	
	Number	%
Age		
16-17	0	0%
18-24	0	0%
25-34	0	0%
35-44	3	100%
45-54	0	0%
55-64	0	0%
65-74	0	0%
75+	0	0%
Prefer not to say	0	0%
Not answered	0	0%
Total	3	100%

Gender		
Female	1	33%
Male	2	67%
If you prefer your own term	0	0%
Prefer not to say	0	0%
Not answered	0	0%
Total	3	100%

Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?		
Yes, it's the same	3	100%
No, it's different	0	0%
Prefer not to say	0	0%
Not answered	0	0%
Total	3	100%

Disability		
Yes	1	33%
No	2	67%
Prefer not to say	0	0%
Not answered	0	0%
Total	3	100%

Ethnicity		
Black	0	0%
Asian	1	33%

Protected Characteristic	Response	
	Number	%
White	2	67%
Mixed	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Prefer not to say	0	0%
Not answered	0	0%
Total	3	100%

Faith		
Baha'i	0	0%
Buddhist	0	0%
Christian	0	0%
Hindu	0	0%
Humanist	0	0%
Jain	0	0%
Jewish	2	67%
Muslim	0	0%
Sikh	0	0%
No religion	0	0%
Other Faith	0	0%
Prefer not to say	1	33%
Not answered	3	100%
Total	78	100%

Pregnancy		
Pregnant	0	0%
On maternity leave	0	0%
Neither	1	33%
Prefer not to say	0	0%
Not answered	2	67%
Total	3	100%

Sexuality		
Bisexual	0	0%
Gay or Lesbian	0	0%
Straight or heterosexual	1	33%
Other sexual orientation	0	0%
Prefer not to say	2	67%
Not answered	0	0%
Total	3	100%

Marital Status		
Single	0	0%
Co-habiting	0	0%
Married	2	67%
Divorced	0	0%
Widowed	0	0%
In a same sex civil partnership	0	0%
Prefer not to say	1	33%
Not answered	0	0%
Total	3	100%

Equalities (update on paragraph 6.7)

- 1.1.9 The proposed fees and charges have been reviewed by each committee and against the protected characteristics and incorporated into an EqIA, together with the consultation findings. The EqIA is appended to this addendum.
- 1.1.10 A detailed Leisure services Fees and Charges EqIA has also been appended to give more detail of the different impacts.
- 1.1.11 On reviewing the cumulative impact of the Fees and Charges, there is a possibility this proposal could contribute to a cumulative impact due to the current cost of living crisis. The Council has recently launched the Barnet Resident Support Fund, where residents can apply for financial support to help with the rising cost of living.