

**Date: 30/07/2020**

Ref: CAM195

Dear Requester

Thank you for your request for information dated 06/07/2020 about blue badges. We have dealt with this under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

## **Response**

The council holds some of the information requested. The answers to your questions are below. We have stated where we do not hold the information requested and why.

**I would like to request the following information under the Freedom of Information act.**

**1. The current number of Blue Badge holders registered in your local authority area.**

We have currently issued 5,597 Blue Badges.

**2. The current number of dedicated Blue Badge parking spaces in your local authority area.**

We currently have 97 dedicated disabled parking spaces.

**3. The number of drivers who have received a fine for misusing a Blue Badge parking space in your local authority area, broken down by month for the years 2019 and 2020 to date.**

The Council's Anti-Fraud and Investigation Team is responsible for investigating suspected misuse of Blue Badges, and also undertakes regular enforcement patrols to identify suspected misuse. Summary outcomes of these patrols and investigation work is reported biannually to the Council's Audit & Corporate Governance Committee, as part of the Council's wider Counter Fraud Report.

The Counter Fraud Report covering the financial year 2019-20 can be found here:

<http://democracy.camden.gov.uk/documents/s90665/Annual%20Counter%20Fraud%20Report%202019-20.pdf>

The Counter Fraud Report covering the financial year 2018-19 can be found here:

<http://democracy.camden.gov.uk/documents/s83897/Annual%20Counter%20Fraud%20Report%202018-19.pdf>

**4. The number of new parking spaces build in your local authority area in the last 12 months, and how many of these were dedicated Blue Badge parking spaces.**

We do not hold the information on the total number of new spaces built in the borough. However, this would be very limited as our policy is to discourage car use in the borough. The total number of new dedicated disabled spaces in the last year is 6.

**5. The number of Blue Badge applications received under the 'hidden disability' criteria in the past 12 months.**

This information is not held as the current computer software used for administering the Blue Badge scheme does not report on the actual criterion used to issue a Blue Badge.

**If possible, it would be really appreciated if you're able to point me in the direction of your current Blue Badge eligibility guidelines as well please.**

The guidelines used by Camden for the issuing of Blue Badges is that provided by the Department for Transport - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-blue-badge-scheme-local-authority-guidance-england/blue-badge>

As some of the information not held is environmental we have to comply with a technicality and tell you that because it is not held it is excepted under Regulation 12 (4)(a). The Information Commissioner does not require a public interest test where the information is not held.

#### **Further Information:**

We do not give our consent for any names and contact details provided in this response to be sent marketing material. Any such use will be reported to the ICO as a breach of General Data Protection Regulations and the Privacy and Electronic Communication Regulations.

Why not check our Portal [Open Data Camden](#) before making a new request as your question may already be answered by a previous [FOI response](#) or in one of our many useful and interesting datasets.

#### **Your Rights**

If you are not happy with how your response was handled you can request an Internal Review within 2 months of this letter by email to [foireviews@camden.gov.uk](mailto:foireviews@camden.gov.uk) or post: Information and Records Management Team, London Borough of Camden, Town Hall, Judd Street, London WC1H 9JE. Please quote your case reference number. If you are not satisfied with the Internal Review outcome you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office at [casework@ico.org.uk](mailto:casework@ico.org.uk) telephone 0303 123 1113, or post to Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. The ICO website [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk) may be useful.

Yours sincerely

**Philip Lewis**  
**Information Rights Officer**