



Helen Sidwell
Divisional Director
Democratic & Legal
Services

Resources Directorate
Complaints, Members Enquiries
& Information Governance

Martin Gibbs
Head of Complaints,
Members Enquiries &
Information Governance

Afham
[request-55656-
b29de194@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-55656-b29de194@whatdotheyknow.com)

Ask for: Information
Governance

Our ref: FOI/E8052

Date: 03 February 2011

Complaints, Members Enquiries &
Information Governance
Newham Dockside
1000 Dockside Road
London
E16 2QU
Tel: 020 33737912
Fax: 020 8430 1504
Email:
information.governance@newham.gov.uk
Web: www.newham.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam,

Freedom of Information Act 2000
Request for Information: Information Supplied
Please quote our reference: E8052
Subject: Council Policy

We write with regard to your request for information held by the Council under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

We trust that the information provided is satisfactory. You are free to use the information for your personal use only. Any other type of re-use, for example, publishing the information or issuing copies to the public will require permission of the copyright owner. If the Council is the copyright owner, a licence can be applied for under the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005.

For future reference we publish information on our website, including the Freedom of Information Publication Scheme and summary of Freedom of Information requests and responses that may be of help to you in searching for information. Our website is mentioned above.

It is important to note that under the Privacy and Electronic Communications (EC Directive) Regulations 2003 the Council asks not to receive unsolicited marketing communication.

Request:

1. Does the Council respect and follow human rights and family and children Act?

2. Can the Council ask for money at any time despite the person saying that he does not have money and is not well? Documents have been provided.
3. A family who is supposed to be getting help from the Council and is a person who is asylum seeker and cannot work. Despite being disabled and following community care. Can the Council harass this person despite submitting an appeal against the council decision?
4. Does the Council follow the NRPF (No Recourse to Public Funds) network rule set up by Parliament?
5. Does the Council make discrimination?

Response:

1. Yes.
2. Yes if an account is overdue for payment.
3. If there has been an overpayment of Housing or Council Tax Benefit which has been appealed, we would not seek to recover while there is an outstanding appeal. In the case of Council Tax Benefit the overpayment should be left suspended and not claimed back from the Council Tax account. Asylum seekers who appear to be destitute receive accommodation and other essential living needs in accordance with the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. Where a dwelling is provided to an asylum seeker under Section 95 of the Act they are not eligible for benefits, including council tax benefit. In this instance the owner of the dwelling is liable for council tax.
4. Yes.
5. No.

If you require any further information or are not happy with our response please do not hesitate to contact a member of our team on (020) 33737912 or email us at information.governance@newham.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

**Resources Directorate
Complaints, Members Enquiries
& Information Governance**

Newham Council