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|  | Resources Department  Law & Governance Division  Information Team  7th Floor - Zone C  Bernard Weatherill House  8 Mint Walk  Croydon CR0 1EA | |
| Blaise Tchoula | | |  | |
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| **SENT BY EMAIL** | | | Contact: Information Team  [FOI@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:FOI@croydon.gov.uk)  Our Ref:1459491  Date: 14 February 2020 | |



Dear Blaise Tchoula

**Freedom of Information Request**

Your request has been considered under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Specifically, you have requested the following information:

1. **Would you please provide the recorded information that you may have that defined what an Inhabitant is?**

An inhabitant is an occupant, resident, citizen of a place who will become a council tax and ratepayer at the appropriate time.

**2) Would you provide recorded information that you may have regarding what a County Council is?**

A county council is the elected administrative body governing an area known as a county. This term has slightly different meanings in different countries.

1. **Would you provide recorded information that you may have regarding Which County Council your Borough Council belong to?**

The local authority, Croydon London Borough Council, is now part of London Councils, the local government association (LGA) for Greater London.

Each of the 32 London boroughs\* are divided into wards. Each ward is usually represented by three elected councillors. Elections are held every four years.

Unlike officers, who are paid employees of the council, councillors are not paid a salary. Councillors do, however, receive an allowance designed to recompense them for the work which they undertake.

Under the Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, each council (and its residents) must choose and implement one of two possible models it wants to use for its political structure.

These are:

**A leader and cabinet or executive.** The council leader is elected by full council for four years. The council may include a provision allowing it to remove the leader during that term by resolution. The leader decides on the deputy leader, size of the cabinet and appoints cabinet members. The cabinet can be either single-party or a coalition. The mayoral function in these councils is a ceremonial role. This is the structure used by the majority of councils in London.

**A directly-elected mayor and cabinet or executive.** The mayor is directly elected by voters in the borough to serve for four years. He or she would then choose a cabinet of no more than 10 councillors. The cabinet members need not all be from the same political party. A directly-elected mayor has much more power than traditional, largely ceremonial, mayors. Only four of London’s councils currently have this structure: Hackney, Lewisham, Newham and Tower Hamlets.

\* The City of London has a unique structure, visit [**www.cityoflondon.gov.uk**](https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/) for more **information**

1. **Would you please provide recorded information regarding the contacts details of your County Council**

<https://www.directory.londoncouncils.gov.uk/directory/croydon/>

1. **Contact details of the department that deals with the liabilities of the Inhabitants**.

See link above which has a lot of details about the work of the London Councils.

1. **How many Borough does your County has?**

The London Councils is made up of 32 London Boroughs plus the City of London.

1. **Would you please tell the public what recorded information you may have regarding what an inhabitant of a County is?**

The GLA will provide demographic information on all the London Councils. Please see contact details for them below. Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 therefore applies, ‘Information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means’. This acts as an exemption notice. Section 21 is an absolute exemption and therefore does not require the public interests balancing test to be applied.

This means that the Council is relieved of the duty to communicate the requested information to an applicant if there is an existing method by which the information can be obtained, outside of the operation of the Freedom of Information Act.

Greater London Authority

City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London SE1 2AA

Tel :020 7983 4000

**A) Being Inhabitant consist of? or what are the characteristics necessary in being an Inhabitant?**

See answer to 1 above.

1. **What does it take to be an Inhabitant?**

See answer to 1 above.

1. **What does it take to stay an Inhabitant:**

Remain in the place where one is the inhabitant and do not break the law, abide by the laws of the country.

If you are dissatisfied with the way the Council has handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act you may ask for an internal review. This should be submitted to us within 40 working days of this response. You can do this by outlining the details of your complaint by:

Email: FOI@croydon.gov.uk

Writing: Information Team

London Borough of Croydon

Bernard Weatherill House

7th Floor - Zone C

8 Mint Walk

Croydon CR0 1EA

Any requests received after the 40 working day time limit will be considered only at the discretion of the council.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner’s Office

Wycliffe House

Water Lane

Wilmslow

Cheshire SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

Croydon Council