



My Ref: FOI5311
Enquiries to: Information Requests
E-Mail: informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk

Dear Requester,

Re: Request for Information – Freedom of Information Act 2000

I wish to confirm that the council has completed its search for the information which you requested.

The information requested and our findings are as follows: -

For the period from 1 July 2025 to the latest date for which records are held at the time of your search (please state the end date used), please provide:

1. Total recorded spend incurred by the Council for repainting roundabouts (including planned maintenance and reactive works), broken down where held by: staff time/recharge rates, contractor costs, vehicles/plant/materials, traffic management, disposal/waste, overtime.

The costs incurred by the Council for the removal of graffiti from the highway in relation to roundabout assets between 01 July 2025 and 12 November 2025 is approximately £6,000. The costs can be considered as “contractor costs” for the purpose of this response.

1a. The number of jobs/incidents where roundabouts were repainted, with date and ward or postcode sector for each (no exact addresses required).

Unlicensed graffiti has been removed from 13 locations across the Borough. Details below.

Location	Area	Asset Type	Received
Mount Vernon Road, Ward Green	Ward Green	Highway Graffiti	22 August 2025
Hawshaw Lane, Hoyland	Hoyland	Highway Graffiti	23 August 2025
High Street, Grimethorpe (Acorn Way end)	Grimethorpe	Highway Graffiti	24 August 2025
High Street, Grimethorpe (St Luke Rd end)	Grimethorpe	Highway Graffiti	24 August 2025
Acorn Way, Grimethorpe	Grimethorpe	Highway Graffiti	24 August 2025
St Luke Road, Grimethorpe	Grimethorpe	Highway Graffiti	24 August 2025
Blacker Road, Mapplewell	Mapplewell	Highway Graffiti	24 August 2025
Midland Road, Royston	Royston	Highway Graffiti	24 August 2025

Thurnscoe Road, BOD	Bolton upon Dearne	Highway Graffiti	26 August 2025
Parkside Road, Hoyland	Hoyland	Highway Graffiti	26 August 2025
Chatsworth Road, Athersley	Athersley	Highway Graffiti	
New Street, Barnsley	Barnsley	Highway Graffiti	27 August 2025
Cemetery Road, Hemingfield	Hemingfield	Highway Graffiti	31 August 2025

2. The job/incident category codes and cost centre/recharge codes used for these works (e.g. road markings/white lining/circulatory carriageway/roundabout).

Category code used is limited to "highway graffiti".

3. The current schedule of rates (or equivalent) used by the Council and/or its contractor(s) for road-marking/white-lining works specifically applicable to roundabouts (e.g. per metre/per m² rates, mobilisation, traffic management).

We have determined that providing any information regarding third party contractors linked to this request would present a real risk to the safety and wellbeing of the individuals involved. There is concern that revealing who delivers works for BMBC regarding the removal of any attachments could cause them to be targeted with abuse, threats or violence. The council does not believe there is legitimate public interest in knowing who carries out the works or the specific rates being used. As such, the potential for harm outweighs the public interest in disclosure in this instance. Therefore, under Section 38(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this information is exempt from disclosure.

4. Any policy/guidance/SOP in force during the period for inspection, prioritisation and repainting of roundabout markings and associated surfacing, including the legal basis (e.g. Highways Act 1980 s41 duty to maintain; Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016; Traffic Signs Manual – Chapter 5 (Road Markings); UKRLG "Well-managed Highway Infrastructure").

Under the Highways Act 1980, the Highway Authority has statutory powers to maintain the highway and ensure its safe use. Section 132 makes it an offence for any person, without consent of the Highway Authority or other lawful authorisation, to paint, inscribe, or affix any picture, letter, sign, or other mark upon the surface of a highway or on any tree, structure, or works within the highway. This provision underpins the removal of unauthorised items such as flags, banners, or signage attached to highway assets. In addition, Section 149 empowers the Authority to remove any object deposited on the

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highway that constitutes a nuisance or danger, allowing immediate action where necessary. Section 178 further prohibits the attachment of any apparatus or object to highway structures such as lighting columns without consent, reinforcing the Authority's ability to remove unauthorised flags or similar items. These powers operate alongside the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (England) Regulations 2007, which regulate the display of advertisements and require consent for signage or displays that could affect amenity or public safety. Together, these provisions form the legal basis for policies and standard operating procedures governing the identification and removal of unauthorised flags from highway assets.

If you do not hold a discrete "roundabout" category, please extract cases recorded under road markings/white lining/traffic signs & lines where the free-text notes contain "roundabout", "RB", "circulatory", "island" or any likely similar keyword for the period.

If the request would exceed the appropriate cost limit, please:

1. Provide items (1)–(2) as aggregated totals for the period; 2. Provide (3)–(5) in full; and 3. Advise what shorter date range or narrower category would be disclosable within the limit.

Under s11 FOIA (and Reg 6 EIR, if applicable), please supply datasets in CSV or Excel (and PDFs for any policies/rates).

If any information is withheld, please cite the specific exemption/exception relied upon and, where applicable, the public-interest test.

I would prefer to receive the response in digital format to this email address.

Whilst not obligatory, any brief operational context you can share alongside the data would be appreciated.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact Information Requests Via email.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the way the Directorate has handled your request, you may ask for an internal review. Please clearly mark your correspondence 'Complaint' and address it to:

Barnsley MBC
Information Requests Team
PO Box 634
Barnsley
S70 9GG

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PO Box 634, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 9GG

email: informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk

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: -

Customer Services Team
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Email: <http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints>

Kind regards,

Information Requests Team, Barnsley MBC

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