



My Ref: FOI 6575
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: -

Staffing levels

- **How many FTE members of staff were employed by your trading standards service in 2018/19?**
7.5 FTE
- **How many FTE members of staff were employed by your trading standards service in 2022/23?**
5.5 FTE
- **How many FTE members of staff were employed by your trading standards service in 2025/26?**
9.9 FTE
- **How many FTE vacancies (if any) were your trading standards service carrying in 2018/19?**
0
- **How many FTE vacancies (if any) were your trading standards service carrying in 2022/23?**
2
- **How many FTE vacancies (if any) were your trading standards service carrying in 2025/26?**
0

Trading standards activities

- **How many enforcement visits were carried out by your trading standards service in 2018/19?**
420
- **How many enforcement visits were carried out by your trading standards service in 2022/23?**
165

- **How many enforcement visits were carried out by your trading standards service in 2025/26?**
223
- **How many prosecutions were commenced by your trading standards service in 2019/19?**
6
- **How many prosecutions were commenced by your trading standards service in 2022/23?**
10
- **How many prosecutions were commenced by your trading standards service in 2025/26?**
9

- **How many informal cautions, letters of advice and written warnings were issued by your trading standards service in 2018/19?**

After considering your request I have decided to refuse it under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act. This is because it is estimated that the time taken to provide the information would exceed the appropriate limit of 18 hours. This is because this information isn't easily retrievable. we would have to check thousands of records manually which would take from 10 minutes to an hour per record.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act is a provision which allows a public authority to refuse to comply with the request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed a set limit known as the appropriate limit. In this case it is estimated that to search for the information you have requested it will take more than the 18 hours, equivalent to a cost of £450 and this is the basis of the decision.

- **How many informal cautions, letters of advice and written warnings were issued by your trading standards service in 2022/23?**

This is exempt under Section 12 of the Information Act. Please see above.

- **How many informal cautions, letters of advice and written warnings were issued by your trading standards service in 2025/26?**

This is exempt under Section 12 of the Information Act. Please see above.

- **How many age restricted test purchases (e.g. alcohol and tobacco, vapes, fireworks, knives etc) were carried out by your trading standards service in 2018/19?**

12

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- **How many age restricted test purchases (e.g. alcohol and tobacco, vapes, fireworks, knives etc) were carried out by your trading standards service in 2022/23?**
8
- **How many age restricted test purchases (e.g. alcohol and tobacco, vapes, fireworks, knives etc) were carried out by your trading standards service in 2025/26?**
15
- **How many shop closures (either temporary or permanent) were ordered by your trading standards service in 2018/19?**
0
- **How many shop closures (either temporary or permanent) were ordered by your trading standards service in 2022/23?**
0
- **How many shop closures (either temporary or permanent) were ordered by your trading standards service in 2025/26?**
6
- **How many premises in your council area had their licences revoked or removed following concerns raised by your trading standards service in 2018/19?**
0
- **How many premises in your council area had their licences revoked or removed following concerns raised by your trading standards service in 2022/23?**
0
- **How many premises in your council area had their licences revoked or removed following concerns raised by your trading standards service in 2025/26?**
0

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.

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PO Box 634, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 9GG

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
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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