

Enabling Barnsley

Corporate Performance Report

Q1 2026/27

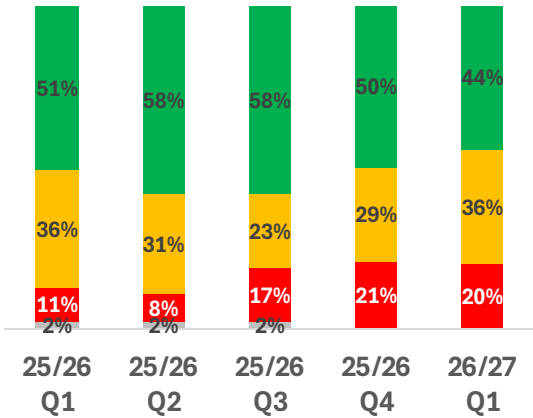
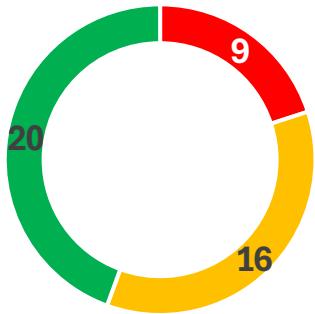


Barnsley – the place
of possibilities.



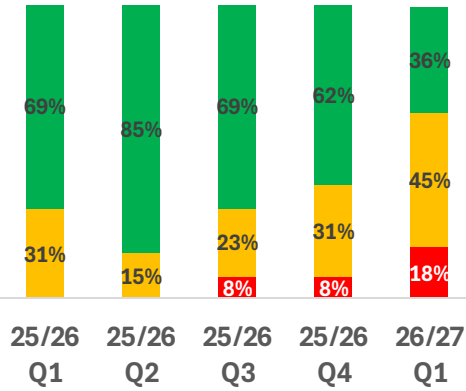
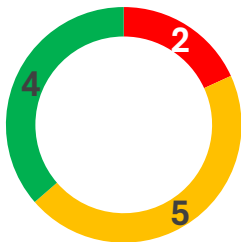
All priorities - Quarter 1 2026/27

CSFs reported - 45



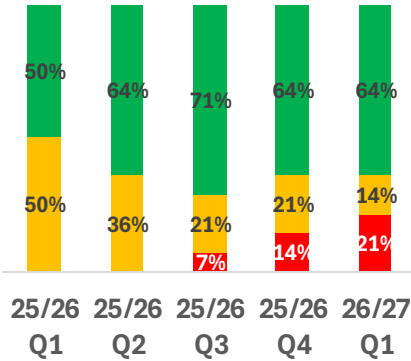
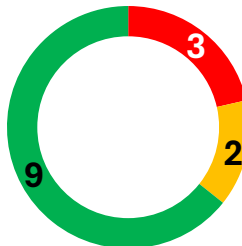
Learning Barnsley

CSFs reported - 11



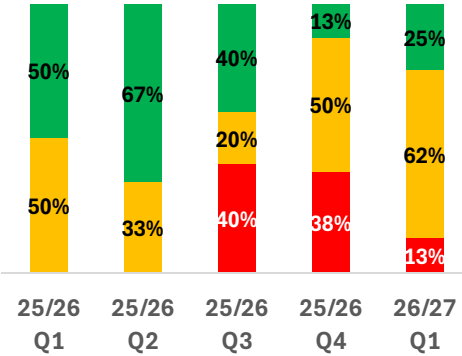
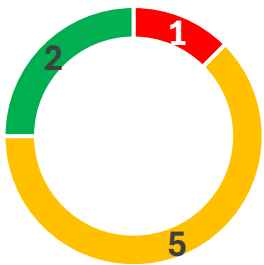
Healthy Barnsley

CSFs reported - 14



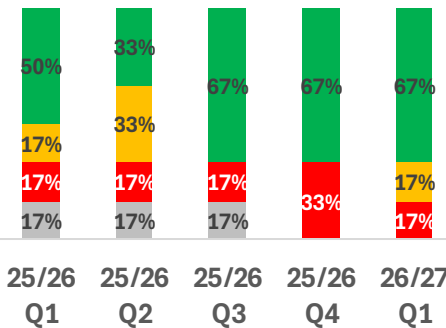
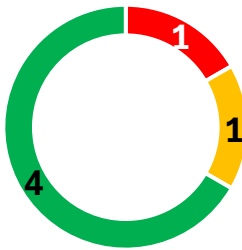
Enabling Barnsley

CSFs reported - 8



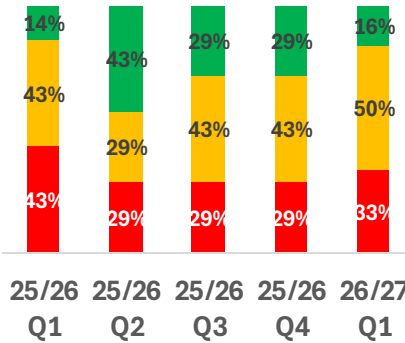
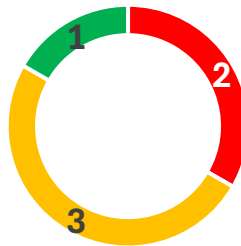
Growing Barnsley

CSFs reported - 6



Sustainable Barnsley

CSFs reported - 6



HEALTHY BARNSELEY

Ref	Indicator Name	Polarity	Q1 Target	Q1 Outcome	Variance to Target
PH03	Number of people who attend How's Thi Ticker for a Blood Pressure check	High	851	678	-173
PH04	Percentage of births that receive a face to face New Birth Visit within 14 days by a Health Visitor	High	95.00%	84.00%	-11.00%
CSC30	Percentage of Assessments for Children's Social Care carried out in 45 working days of referral	High	85.00%	64.80%	-20.20%
PH05	Percentage of children who received a 2-2½ year review	High	95.00%	94.00%	-1.00%
CSC7	Percentage of Child Protection for whom a visit has taken place within 10 working days	High	90.00%	84.50%	-5.50%
PH02	Percentage of accepted referrals who set a quit date with the commissioned stop smoking service	High	65.00%	71.00%	6.00%
ASC_PF40	Proportion of section 42 safeguarding enquiries where a risk was identified, and the reported outcome was that this risk was reduced or removed	High	80.00%	93.60%	13.60%
ASC_PF8	Proportion of service users in Adult Social Care completing reablement with no long term needs	High	70.00%	70.70%	0.70%
ASC_PF33	Number of Overdue Reviews in Adult Social Care	Low	400	252	-148.00
HB20	Proportion of Contacts where the outcome is Information, Advice or Signposted	High	30.00%	37.09%	7.09%
HB24	Number of adults aged 18 to 64 whose long-term support needs are met by admission to residential nursing care homes (per 100,000 population)	Low	6.25	6.00	-0.25
HB25	Number of adults aged 65+ whose long-term support needs are met by admission to residential and nursing care homes (per 100,000 population)	Low	200	115	-85
HB22	Percentage of older persons care home providers rated good or outstanding	High	70.00%	76.30%	6.30%
HB21	Percentage of Looked After Children who are placed less than 20 miles from their home address	High	85.00%	86.50%	1.50%

HEALTHY BARNSELEY

Executive Narrative

Percentage of Child Protection (CP) for whom a visit has taken place within 10 working days ■

Performance for Quarter 1 was 84.5%, below the target of 90%. This reflects continued pressures within Children's Social Care arising from increased demand and workforce capacity challenges. Despite these pressures, Child Protection visits remain a priority safeguarding activity and the majority of children subject to Child Protection Plans are being seen within required timescales. This indicator is reviewed weekly through dedicated performance meetings, with oversight from the Head of Service and Service Manager, providing robust scrutiny and timely management action where improvement is required. While visits have been undertaken, delays in recording some visits on the case management system have impacted reported performance. The timely recording of visits is therefore a key area of focus and is being closely monitored by managers. Actions are in place to improve performance, including strengthened management oversight, targeted support to teams, and measures to address workforce capacity pressures. There are no identified concerns regarding children not being seen, and current improvement activity is focused on ensuring both visits and recording are completed within required timescales. These measures are expected to support a return towards target performance during Quarter 2 while maintaining a strong focus on safeguarding and positive outcomes for children.

Number of people who attend How's Thi Ticker for a Blood Pressure check ■

678 blood pressure checks were undertaken in Q1. 431 of these were carried out in the community- 27.4% of those had a high blood pressure and were signposted to a local pharmacy or GP. The team visited 22 different community venues across the borough. Q1 performance was below target due to staffing capacity, reduced workplace health check activity, and lower engagement from local businesses. Performance can fluctuate quarter-on-quarter depending on the mix of workplace health checks and community blood pressure sessions, with workplace health checks requiring significantly more time to deliver. Despite lower activity levels, a recent evaluation confirmed the service is reaching its intended target population, supporting a quality-focused approach. Work is also underway with South Yorkshire ICB colleagues to develop longer-term outcome measures and strengthen the evidence of impact.

Percentage of children who received a 2-2½ year review ■

Still eligible until end of July 26. This is influenced by reporting timing. At the end of Quarter 1, a number of children remained eligible for their 2–2½ year review, as assessments can be completed up to the final day of the month. As a result, some activity was not fully captured within the reporting period, temporarily suppressing reported performance

HEALTHY BARNESLEY

Executive Narrative

Percentage of Assessments for Children's Social Care carried out in 45 working days of referral ■

Performance for the percentage of Children's Social Care assessments completed within 45 working days of referral has reduced below the quarterly KPI target of 85%, achieving 64.8% in Quarter 1. This reflects some specific operational pressures linked to a lack of available agency staff to cover maternity / staff sickness. At the same time, the service continued to receive higher levels of demand with increased referrals into the front door - the service effectively had a dual pressure to contend with. In this context, Heads of Service, have maintained close oversight of performance through regular tracking and where assessments have exceeded the 45 days management oversight has been applied. It is important to note that, despite reduced timeliness in this period, management oversight indicates that statutory safeguarding activity, child protection enquiries, visits, and risk management activity continued to be prioritised appropriately throughout the period. At the time of writing, appropriate cover arrangements are in place and the service will be moving towards restoring its performance targeted whilst also maintaining and ensuring appropriate quality assurance of assessments.

Percentage of births that receive a face to face New Birth Visit within 14 days by a Health Visitor ■

Performance against the New Birth Visit indicator remains below the 95% target; however, this should be viewed in the context of a significant change in performance requirements. Historically, local delivery was measured against completion within 21 days, whereas the revised Healthy Child Programme requires all New Birth Visits to be completed within 14 days. The transition to this enhanced standard has impacted reported performance, although timely delivery within the new timeframe is now well embedded as a core operational priority across the service. As national requirements are incorporated into local service delivery, we are experiencing the same challenges as neighbouring services and those reflected nationally. This realignment is expected to be reflected in our reporting over the next 12 months; however, we anticipate returning to target performance within this period and achieving the 95% standard within the required timeframe. Our completion rates remain above 95% when measured against the previous 21-day standard. Service delivery is therefore continuing as expected, with the key challenge being to ensure that families are offered and able to accept appointments within the revised timeframe. The service continues to monitor compliance closely through operational oversight and workforce management arrangements. Delivery within 14 days remains a key priority, and performance is anticipated to continue improving as the revised standard becomes fully embedded and quarter-end eligible activity is completed and recorded.

LEARNING BARNSELEY

Ref	Critical Success Factors	Polarity	Q1 Target	Q1 Outcome	Variance to Target
LB14	Number of contacts that resulted in reablement	High	375	292	-83
LB01	Care leavers aged 19-21 engaged in education, employment or training	High	65.00%	53.70%	-11.30%
LB05	Take up of 2 year old childcare for those eligible through economic criteria	High	80.00%	74.87%	-5.13%
LB06	Primary School Attendance	High	95.00%	94.40%	-0.60%
LB07	Secondary School Attendance	High	92.00%	89.00%	-3.00%
LB09	Percentage of Early Years settings with leadership and governance at the expected standard or better	High	98.00%	97.50%	-0.50%
LB11	The Number of Suspensions in all schools	Low	1750	1910	160
LB08	Percentage of Secondary & Primary schools with leadership and governance at the expected standard or better	High	90.00%	92.13%	2.13%
EB16	Annual council expenditure against the apprenticeship levy and/or transference of levy funds	High	90.00%	92.00%	2.00%
HB23	Percentage of specialist and younger occupant care home providers rated good or outstanding	High	70.00%	75.90%	5.90%
LB04	Number of visits to libraries (Digital & Physical)	High	172,420	184,236	11,816

LEARNING BARNSLEY

Executive Narrative

Care leavers aged 19-21 engaged in education, employment or training ■

A workshop has been held with TIAG and Pathways to Care to increase the focus on those care leavers who need additional support to access employment, education or training. Meetings have been set up at The Hub jointly run by Future Directions and TIAG to support those young people who are NEET into work experience programmes as part of the introduction to the world of education, employment and training. We are also working with the virtual school to ensure that children who are at risk of becoming NEET as care leavers (for example due to school exclusions, multiple school placements, complex needs) to develop a transition plan for them from school to further education, employment or training at the end of the statutory school age.

Barnsley is performing well in this area, The comparative data for 2025 shows that 64% of Barnsley Children in care were in some form of Education, Employment or Training, however this was only 50% for Yorkshire and the Humber, and only 48,.2% for our statistical neighbours. The England Average for EET was 54%.

Number of contacts in Adult Social Care that resulted in reablement ■

The number of contacts resulting in reablement during Q1 was 292, below the target of 375. Analysis suggests this reflects a combination of referral appropriateness and recording pathways rather than reduced demand for support. A proportion of individuals referred into Adult Social Care were assessed as requiring alternative services or support arrangements and were signposted accordingly. In addition, some contacts progressing through safeguarding or other routes may subsequently have received reablement support but are not currently captured within this indicator. The service will continue to review referral pathways and recording processes to ensure performance data accurately reflects reablement activity and outcomes, while maintaining a focus on supporting people to maximise independence and avoid long-term care needs

LEARNING BARNSLEY

Executive Narrative

Take up of 2 year old childcare for those eligible through economic criteria

Performance remains below the 80% target at 74.87%. This is due to a proportion of eligible families not taking up their entitlement despite targeted promotion and outreach activity. In addition, some families experience barriers to accessing provision, including late applications meaning they need to access their funding the term after the current term they are eligible for.

The Number of Suspensions in all schools

Total suspension are above our Q1 target. Extensive work is taking place through the every child in school everyday plan to ensure that suspensions are used as a last resort and that it is understood that behaviour is a form of communication. The Early intervention panel and the High suspension panel are now embedded in practice across the secondary network.

Secondary School Attendance

Despite secondary attendance being below the Q1 target, we are beginning to narrow the gap and move closer to the national average. We have seen a significant reduction in the number of children with attendance below 90%. We will continue to provide targeted intervention to schools and families in line with statutory guidance and our local strategic priority of ensuring every child is in school every day.

Primary School Attendance

Q1 attendance is below the 95% target; however, primary school attendance in Barnsley remains strong and is broadly in line with, or above, national and regional comparators. Individual school attendance is closely monitored, with targeted support and intervention provided to schools and families according to need.

Percentage of Early Years settings with leadership and governance at the expected standard or better

Ofsted and the Department for Education (DfE) introduced changes to inspection outcome judgements on 10 November 2025. Historically, revisions to inspection frameworks and judgement criteria have typically resulted in a temporary reduction in overall performance outcomes, a trend that is reflected both nationally and within the local data.

This pattern is also evident in inspections undertaken since the introduction of the revised framework. Of the 13 inspections completed, 9 resulted in no identified concerns; however, this means that only 69% of inspected early years settings achieved leadership and management outcomes at the expected standard or above under the new framework. Despite the impact of these changes on recent inspection outcomes, the borough's overall performance remains strong, with 97.5% of providers achieving the required standard. This continues to be significantly higher than the national average of 89% (March 2026).

GROWING BARNSELEY

Ref	Critical Success Factors	Polarity	Q1 Target	Q1 Outcome	Variance to Target
HB05	Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents per 1,000 population	Low	4.5	4.98	0.48
RG03	Number of Jobs Secured (EI Trailblazer)	High	61	55	-6
GB05	Number of Private Sector Jobs created	High	168	309	141
GB09	Town Centre Footfall	High	2,420,000	2,856,295	436,295
GB10	Town Centre Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents	Low	125	79	-46
PH01	Percentage of high risk food hygiene inspections carried out against inspections due (Risk Rating A and B)	High	80.00%	100.00%	20.00%

GROWING BARNSLEY

Executive Narrative

Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents per 1,000 population ■

ASB has seen an increase throughout South Yorkshire in Quarter 1, with Barnsley recording the second highest increase of 40% (+360). The increase is likely to be due to seasonality and the warmer weather. The month of May recorded the highest volumes this quarter, reaching 482 incidents.

The top offences in Barnsley this quarter were ORB/Quad incidents (378), followed by Rowdy/Inconsiderate Behaviour (350). The top three wards were Royston (146), Central (145) and Monk Bretton (77).

Number of Jobs Secured (EI Trailblazer) ■

During Quarter 1, 55 residents achieved employment outcomes, representing 90% of the quarterly profile.

The programme continues to support residents facing significant barriers to employment, including long-term health conditions, caring responsibilities, low confidence, low skills and prolonged economic inactivity. During Q1, 258 residents received support through the Trailblazer programme, demonstrating continued demand for the service and a strong pipeline of residents progressing towards employment.

Performance compares favourably across South Yorkshire and Barnsley remains one of the stronger-performing localities when adjusted for population size.

Alongside direct employment support, activity during the quarter focused on strengthening partnership working, improving referral pathways and expanding employer engagement. Cohort-focused workshops have been delivered with partners across health, probation, carers' services and support for care leavers, helping to create more integrated support for residents. Employer engagement activity continues to focus on developing sector-based pathways and increasing employment opportunities for residents facing barriers to work.

Priority actions for Quarter 2 include expanding community outreach activity, strengthening employer partnerships, increasing awareness of the Pathways offer and continuing to improve performance monitoring and reporting arrangements to ensure robust evidence of programme impact.

SUSTAINABLE BARNSLEY

Ref	Indicator Name	Polarity	Q1 Target	Q1 Outcome	Variance to Target
GB11	Number of New Homes Delivered <i>*reporting one quarter in arrears</i>	High	157	98	-59
RG01	Rent Collection	High	98.50%	93.75%	-4.75%
GB16	Empty Home Rent Loss (previously termed void rent loss)	Low	1.50%	1.59%	0.09%
SB03	Household Recycling <i>*reporting one quarter in arrears</i>	High	40.00%	39.90%	-0.10%
GB15	Number of placements to temporary accommodation	Low	115	123	8
SB04	Visits to Museum Service Grounds and Outdoor Sites	High	500,000	642,142	142,142

SUSTAINABLE BARNSLEY

Executive Narrative

Number of new homes delivered *reporting one quarter in arrears ■

The decline in net housing completions in Q1 reflects ongoing challenges in housing delivery, including development viability pressures, infrastructure constraints, and wider market uncertainty. Locally, delivery has also been affected by the pace at which developers bring forward and implement approved schemes.

In response, the Council has taken a proactive approach to supporting housing growth. A Housing Delivery Test Action Plan has been established to identify and address barriers to delivery, alongside continued engagement with developers to accelerate progress on key masterplan sites. The Council has also introduced a Planning Performance Agreement (PPA) offer to provide greater certainty and support for major developments, while maintaining a strong focus on pre-application discussions to help bring forward high-quality schemes at the earliest opportunity.

Although housing delivery is influenced by factors outside the direct control of the Local Planning Authority, the Council remains committed to enabling sustainable growth, maintaining a strong pipeline of deliverable sites, and working collaboratively with developers and partners to increase housing delivery across the borough.

Rent Collection (awaiting additional narrative) ■

Quarter 1 has delivered a positive start to the year in terms of rent collection performance, with collection levels remaining robust despite continued economic pressures affecting many households. A key factor in this success has been the implementation of the Universal Credit Verification Bot, which has significantly reduced the resource burden traditionally experienced during April and May. This automation has freed up staff capacity, enabling the team to focus on early intervention, customer support, and income recovery activities rather than manual verification processes. AI and automation across the service continues to deliver benefits, improve efficiency, reduce administrative workloads and enables resources to focus on contacting and supporting the right customers at the right time contributing positively to both service performance and customer outcomes. A good start to the year against a backdrop of ongoing cost of living challenges, including rising household bills, increased energy costs and wider economic uncertainty, all of which continue to impact tenants' financial resilience

SUSTAINABLE BARNSELEY

Executive Narrative

Household Recycling *reporting one quarter in arrears ■

This measure shows the percentage of household waste collected by the Council that is reused, recycled or composted, and is used to compare recycling performance of councils nationally through WasteDataFlow. It is therefore reported one quarter in arrears.

The recycling rate for Q4 was 39.9%, against a 40% target.

The year end recycling rate is: 44.7% against a 46% target.

Recycling levels change throughout the year, with lower rates in winter due to garden waste, (this is reflected in the targets set for each quarter).

Performance has been below target, mainly because in Q3 & Q4 bulky and fly tipped items could not be recycled due to limited facilities and were sent for energy recovery and a small percentage (2.2%) to landfill.

Empty Home Rent Loss (previously termed Void Rent Loss) ■

Empty Homes rent loss has reduced by 0.19% points in comparison with quarter one 2025/26.

Work continues across Berneslai Homes and partners to reduce the number of void properties which will in turn reduce the void loss. Operational oversight is provided by a cross team operational meeting with strategic oversight meetings also taking place.

Number of placements to temporary accommodation ■

Temporary accommodation placements reduced from 139 in Q4 to 123 in Q1. Although this is a positive reduction, placements remain high, and demand for temporary accommodation continues to remain a pressure. The service will continue to focus on prevention, move-on pathways and alternative accommodation options to reduce reliance on temporary accommodation.

Enabling Barnsley

Ref	Indicator Name	Polarity	Q1 Target	Q1 Outcome	Variance to Target
OH1	Performance against Overall Budget	High	100.00%	99.50%	-0.50%
CORE1	Business Rates Collection Rate	High	98.00%	96.99%	-1.01%
CORE2	Council Tax Collection	High	96.50%	96.18%	-0.32%
OH6	Percentage of Disabled Employees	High	13.80%	13.54%	-0.26%
OH5	Percentage of BME Employees	High	3.00%	2.91%	-0.09%
OH3	Percentage of Complaints Upheld	Low	60.00%	53.00%	-7.00%
OH2	Sickness Days per FTE	Low	2.13	1.96	-0.17

Core Services – Critical Success Factors Narrative

Council Tax Collection ■

Council Tax collection is forecast to be 0.01% above the 2025/26 position, but 0.32% below the stretch target. This remains a strong position. Planned improvements to collection methods for financially vulnerable households, alongside a data-sharing pilot with HMRC to obtain employment details for non-payers, are expected to improve performance over the remainder of the financial year.

Percentage of Disabled Employees ■

Disabled employees accounted for 13.54% of the workforce in Q1 2026/27. This is effectively unchanged from the Q4 2025/26 year-end figure of 13.50%, with a marginal increase of 0.04 percentage points. The position remains stable but is approximately 0.26 percentage points below the 13.8% corporate target, indicating that continued work to support disability inclusion, workplace adjustments and employee confidence in declaring disability remains appropriate.

Business Rate Collection ■

Business Rates collection is forecast to be 1.01% below the stretch target and 0.95% below the 2025/26 position. This reflects wider economic challenges and increased cost pressures on businesses. The retail sector continues to receive additional supplementary support this year to help reduce potential impacts, minimise collection risks and support businesses through the current economic challenges. Performance is expected to improve in quarter 2, and the collection position will continue to be closely monitored to identify opportunities to reduce any financial impact.

Percentage of BME Employees ■

BME employees accounted for 2.91% of the workforce in Q1 2026/27, based on employees who completed the equality monitoring form. This represents a small reduction of 0.20 percentage points from the Q4 2025/26 year-end figure of 3.11%. The Q1 position is therefore broadly stable, although it has moved slightly below the 3.0% corporate target. Continued monitoring will be important to establish whether this is a short-term workforce fluctuation or the beginning of a wider trend.

Core Services – Critical Success Factors Narrative

Sickness

Overall sickness has decreased from 7,400 FTE days in quarter 4 to 6,154 FTE days in quarter 1. This equates to an average of 1.96 FTE days lost per employee in quarter 1, compared to 2.34 FTE days lost in quarter 4. The same quarter last year was 1.80 FTE days lost per employee, so the 2026/27 quarter 1 figure is slightly higher than 2025/26.

The usual trend for quarter 1 is that there is a decrease in sickness from quarter 4. Quarter 1 is also the start of the new leave period.

Sickness due to mental health reasons continues to be the highest reason for absence in quarter 1 across all directorates and has increased slightly overall to 2,991 from 2,696 FTE days in quarter 4. The next highest reasons for absence in quarter 1 were gastrointestinal (723 FTE days), then musculoskeletal (602 FTE days), followed by heart (278 FTE days), injury and fracture (255 FTE days), ear, nose and throat (220 FTE days) and cancers (198 FTE days).

A total of 678 absence episodes were recorded in Q1 2026/27. Short-term absences continued to account for the majority of cases, with 535 episodes (78.9%), while 143 episodes (21.1%) were long-term absences lasting over four weeks.