



My Ref: FOI6484
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: -

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and/or the Environmental Information Regulations, as applicable, please provide the following recorded information concerning publicly accessible equipped children's playgrounds owned, managed or maintained by Barnsley Borough Council.

For this request, "children's playground" means a publicly accessible outdoor play area containing fixed play equipment primarily intended for children. Please exclude school playgrounds, privately owned facilities, standalone outdoor gyms, standalone skateparks and standalone multi-use games areas, unless they form part of an equipped children's playground included in the council's records.

If the council uses a different recorded definition, please answer using that definition and briefly explain it.

Please provide:

1. Current playground provision

The number of equipped children's playgrounds currently owned, managed or maintained by the council, and the date on which this figure was correct.

2. Openings and closures

For each completed financial year from 2021/22 to 2025/26:

- a. The number of equipped children's playgrounds opened.**
- b. The number permanently closed.**

Please do not count temporary closures for maintenance or refurbishment as permanent closures.

If annual figures are not held for the full period, please provide the years that are available and state which years are not held.

3. Playground expenditure

For each financial year from 2021/22 to 2025/26, please provide the recorded figure held by the council.

- a. Recorded revenue expenditure on the inspection, routine maintenance and repair of equipped children's playgrounds.
- b. Recorded capital expenditure on the creation, replacement or major refurbishment of equipped children's playgrounds.

Please provide revenue and capital expenditure separately where possible. If playground expenditure cannot be separated from a wider parks or leisure budget, please provide the relevant figure as held and briefly explain what it includes. We are not asking the council to undertake a new calculation.

Where the 2025/26 figure has not been finalised or audited, please provide the latest provisional figure and identify it as provisional.

4. Inclusive playground provision

The number of council-maintained playgrounds currently recorded or designated by the council as having inclusive play facilities.

If readily available, please provide the definition or criteria used by the council to classify a playground as inclusive. If the council does not maintain this classification, please state that the information is not held.

5. Accessible equipment

The number of council-maintained playgrounds currently recorded as containing at least one item of accessible play equipment.

If readily available, please provide the definition or criteria used to classify equipment as accessible. If the council does not maintain this classification, please state that the information is not held.

6. Playgrounds awaiting repair

As of the date the information is extracted:

- a. The number of individual playgrounds affected by an open or outstanding equipment repair.
- b. The date on which this figure was correct.

Please provide the information in Excel or CSV format where possible. We are requesting recorded totals or figures already held by the council and are not asking the council to inspect individual files or create new statistics.

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If any part of the request would exceed the appropriate cost limit, please provide reasonable advice and assistance on how it could be narrowed. Where possible, please provide the information that can be retrieved within the limit, prioritising questions 1–3.

If the council does not own, manage or maintain any equipped children's playgrounds, please confirm this. If another public body holds the information, please identify that body where known.

Please see the attached spreadsheet.

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
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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