



My Ref: FOI/ 5335
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: -

- 1. What are the counts for the below items during the 2024/25 financial year?**
 - a. Overall number of council-ran youth centres in local authority**
6
 - b. Overall number of youth centres in local authority run by other organisations**
We do not hold this information
 - c. Overall number of directly employed youth workers and youth support workers (Head count)**
As of December 2025: 51
 - d. Overall number of directly employed youth workers and youth support workers (FTE)**
As of December 2025: 33.73
- 2. As part of the Section 251 Outturn submitted to Department for Education for the 2024/25 financial year, which budget line did your local authority include expenditure on Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme? (e.g., 2.4.1 (Other specific grants); 3.5.2 Targeted services for young people)**
The HAF is not reflected in the Section 251 Outturn
- 3. How much did your local authority spend on the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme in the 2024/25 financial year?**
£1.058M
- 4. As part of the expenditure on youth services (lines 3.5.1 to 3.5.3 of the Section 251 Outturn submitted to the Department for Education in the 2024/25 financial year), how much income was from mayoral combined authority funding?**
£0 - There was no mayoral combined authority funding
- 5. Did your local authority receive any of the Youth Investment Fund from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport in the 2024/25 financial year?**
 - a. Yes / No**
No

If yes,

- b. How much money was received? N/A
- c. What project(s) was YIF used for in your local authority? N/A
- d. Was this a new-build or refurbishment/renovation of existing space? N/A
- e. What was the split of funding between capital (e.g., building, renovations) and revenue (service delivery)? N/A
- f. Was this funding included as part of your Section 251 Outturn statement to DfE? If so, which budget line was this attributed to, and in which financial year? N/A

6. In the Department for Culture, Media and Sport's Statutory guidance for local authorities on services to improve young people's wellbeing (published 27 September 2023), it states that "Local authorities must determine what activities and associated facilities should be available to young people in their area", and "should start by establishing what the needs of the young people in their area are, both in terms of activities and facilities, through a needs assessment."

Has your local authority conducted a needs based assessment in the last three years?

- a. Yes / No

The Council has undertaken a number of needs assessment in the last three years but these are not in a single assessment.

If Yes,

- b. When was this conducted? The Council has undertaken a number of needs assessment in the last three years but these are not in a single assessment.
- c. How was this achieved? (E.g., analysing available data, taking views from providers, benchmarking approaches, regular audits of provision, using the National Youth Agency [NYA] statutory duty toolkit, as part of a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment [JSNA], as part of a public health review, etc.)
Various needs assessment activity has taken place. However, this is not yet held in one single place.

If No,

7. Does your local authority plan to conduct a needs based assessment on youth provision within the next four years? If so, when will this be?
Yes. We are planning to produce a single youth needs assessment and local strategy in early 2026 to coincide with the newly launched National Youth Strategy.

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8. Under Section 507B of the Education Act 1996, “local authorities must consult, and take into account the views of young people in their area on: current provision; the need for additional activities and facilities; access to those activities and facilities”

Has your local authority consulted young people on youth provision in the last four years?

a. Yes / No

Yes

If Yes,

b. When was this conducted?

This is an ongoing process.

c. How was this achieved? (E.g., surveys, visits to youth groups, feedback sessions in schools, youth councils, youth-led peer reviews, as part of the Department for Culture, Media & Sport’s Deliver You campaign)

Consultation with young people is undertaken via a range of methods such as surveys, face to face sessions and bespoke / targeted group activity across a range of venues both in school and community.

If No,

d. Does your local authority plan to consult with young people on youth provision within the next four years? If so, when will this be? N/A

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: -

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PO Box 634, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 9GG

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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