

Enabling Barnsley

Corporate Performance Report

Year-End 2025/26

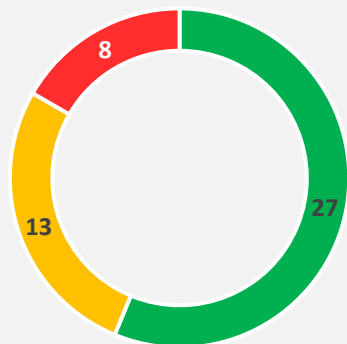


Barnsley – the place
of possibilities.



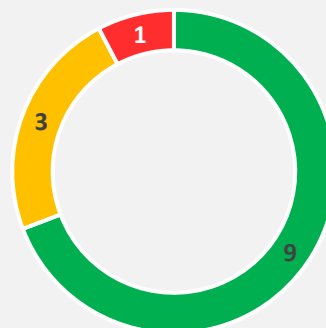
Year-End 2025/26

CSFs reported - 48



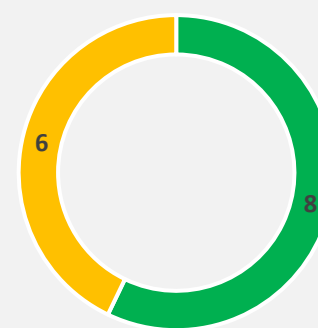
Learning Barnsley

CSFs reported - 13



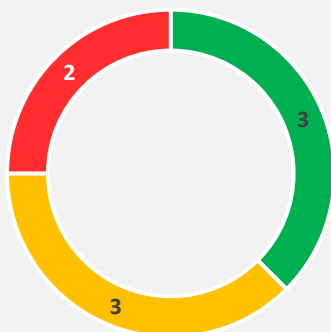
Healthy Barnsley

CSFs reported - 14



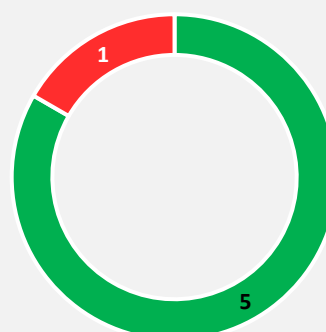
Enabling Barnsley

CSFs reported - 8



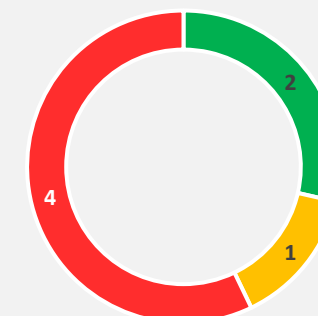
Growing Barnsley

CSFs reported - 6



Sustainable Barnsley

CSFs reported - 7



Learning Barnsley

Ref	Critical Success Factors	Polarity	Year End Target 24/25	Year End Figure 24/25	Year End Target 25/26	Year End Figure 25/26
LB01	Care leavers aged 19-21 engaged in education, employment or training	High	55.00%	63.50%	65.00%	59.30%
LB05	Take up of 2 year old childcare for those eligible through economic criteria	High	77.00%	77.40%	78.00%	77.11%
LB06	Primary School Attendance	High	94.90%	94.70%	95.00%	94.80%
LB07	Secondary School Attendance	High	91.80%	91.00%	92.00%	90.50%
HB23	Percentage of specialist and younger occupant care home providers rated good or outstanding	High	70.00%	78.00%	70.00%	80.55%
LB04	Number of visits to libraries (Digital & Physical)	High	680,000	680,702	700,000	727,098
LB08	Proportion of educational settings judged good or outstanding by Ofsted	High	93.00%	94.32%	96.40%	96.40%
LB09	Proportion of Early Years and Childcare setting judged Good or Outstanding	High	98.00%	96.00%	98.00%	99.20%
LB10	Percentage of children on SEN Support in Schools	High	12.20%	13.00%	13.20%	13.78%
LB11	The Number of Suspensions in all schools	Low	No Data	No Data	7000	6804
LB13	Young People (10 - 17) years entering the Youth Justice System for the First Time	Low	31	22	30	16
LB14	Number of contacts that resulted in reablement (short term CSF)	High	1400	1651	1500	1510
EB16	Annual council expenditure against the apprenticeship levy and/or transference of levy funds	High	90.00%	91.00%	90.00%	120.81%

Learning Barnsley Supporting Narrative

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

The latest data (Autumn 2025) shows that take-up is below target. However, this is partly due to how eligibility is being recorded rather than actual demand.

Some eligible two-year-olds qualify under both economic criteria (e.g. Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance) and the 30 hours working families' offer. In these cases, parents often choose to access the single 30-hour code instead of applying for two separate 15-hour codes. This means they are counted under the working families' offer rather than the two-year-old economic entitlement.

The Department for Education has asked local authorities to review this approach and ensure that children eligible for both entitlements are recorded under two separate codes. Implementing this change should lead to a significant increase in reported take-up rates in future quarters.

Primary School Attendance

Primary attendance has been broadly stable across 24/25 and 25/26. During 2024/25, primary attendance remained relatively stable, with performance close to target in all quarters, exceeding target in Q2 and Q3 but falling marginally below in Q1 and Q4, resulting in a year-end figure of 94.8% just below target at 95%.

Attendance remains in line with national average and on track with our overarching target. Work continues to ensure that every child is in school every day. The data is regularly reviewed and activity is targeted in schools that fall below the national average.

Secondary School Attendance

In 2025/26, attendance followed a similar pattern to the previous year, with an increase between Q1 and Q2, and decline in the second half of the year. 25/26 ended with performance below the 92% target at 90.5%.

Secondary school attendance is below our target but is on an improvement journey. We continue to work across the sector to promote the every child in school every day agenda. Targeted work is undertaken with schools that fall below our target.

Healthy Barnsley

Ref	Critical Success Factors	Polarity	Year End Target 24/25	Year End Figure 24/25	Year End Target 25/26	Year End Figure 25/26
ASC_PF8	Proportion of service users completing reablement with no long term needs	High	84.00%	77.20%	70.00%	68.03%
CSC30	Percentage of Assessments for Children's Social Care carried out in 45 working days of referral	High	85.00%	82.10%	85.00%	79.50%
CSC7	Percentage of Child Protection for whom a visit has taken place within 10 working days	High	95.00%	93.80%	90.00%	88.25%
HB21	Percentage of Looked After Children who are placed less than 20 miles from their home address	High	Monitor	87.20%	85.00%	84.13%
PH04	Percentage of births that receive a face to face New Birth Visit within 14 days by a Health Visitor	High	New	New	95.00%	94.96%
PH05	Percentage of children who received a 2-2½ year review	High	New	New	95.00%	93.15%
ASC_PF33	Number of Overdue Reviews in Adult Social Care	Low	400	348	400	276
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	95.00%	94.60%	80.00%	82.40%
HB20	Proportion of Contacts where the outcome is Information, Advice or Signposted	High	7.50%	30.49%	25.00%	34.95%
HB22	Percentage of older persons care home providers rated good or outstanding	High	70.00%	82.00%	70.00%	77.28%
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	20.00	24.00	25.00	13.00
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	760	811	800	517
PH02	Percentage of accepted referrals who set a quit date with the commissioned stop smoking service <i>*reporting one quarter in arrears</i>	High	New	New	65.00%	66.00%
PH03	Number of people who attend How's Thi Ticker for a Blood Pressure check	High	New	New	3404	3651

Healthy Barnsley Supporting Narrative

Proportion of service users completing reablement with no long term needs

The dip in reablement performance in terms of completing reablement with no long-term needs is largely attributable to increased service user acuity, compounded by seasonal pressures associated with hospital discharge pathways.

Over this period, the service has supported individuals with significantly more complex and intensive needs, directly impacting throughput, length of intervention, and the pace at which outcomes can be achieved.

Higher acuity cohorts require extended periods of support, increased staffing input, including double-handed support with more complex goals, and more coordinated, multidisciplinary interventions to enable safe and sustainable independence. As a result, capacity is held within cases for longer, reducing overall flow and affecting performance against standard reablement measures.

Percentage of Child Protection for whom a visit has taken place within 10 working days

Performance in Quarter 4 shows that 89.3% of children on a Child Protection Plan were visited within 10 working days, just below the 90% target, with a year-end position of 88.25%.

This means that the large majority of vulnerable children are being seen quickly and regularly, with only a very small gap against expectation. Visits are closely monitored on a weekly basis by managers, which allows any delay to be identified early and addressed promptly. Where families are not available at the time of a planned visit, staff follow up persistently over the following days to ensure the child is seen. Small variations in performance are usually linked to staff illness or unexpected absence, but contingency arrangements are put in place to maintain visiting. Overall, performance remains consistently strong, and there is clear oversight and action to ensure children are seen and their safety is checked.

Percentage of children who received a 2-2½ year review

Performance at year-end is slightly below the 95% target, with an achieved rate of 93.15%.

The year-end position is influenced by reporting timing. At the end of year, 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. This is a known and recurring reporting factor rather than a reflection of reduced service delivery.

Performance remains broadly on track and close to target, with the reported shortfall largely attributable to year-end data timing rather than a decline in performance.

Healthy Barnsley Supporting Narrative

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

Performance at year-end is marginally below the 95% target, with an achieved rate of 94.96%, representing delivery very close to the expected standard.

Performance has remained consistently high throughout the year, maintaining levels close to target and demonstrating sustained delivery of timely new birth visits across the service.

The slight variance from target is minimal (0.04%) and does not indicate a deterioration in service performance. Delivery of new birth visits within 14 days remains embedded as a core operational priority, with strong compliance across the workforce. Minor fluctuations in performance are likely attributable to operational factors such as demand variability, workforce capacity, and scheduling challenges, which are typical within universal service delivery.

Performance is effectively on target, with the service demonstrating strong and consistent delivery across the year. The negligible variance reflects normal operational fluctuation rather than any systemic performance concern.

Percentage of Looked After Children who are placed less than 20 miles from their home address

Placement sufficiency remains a national challenge for children in care. Locally we do not have enough placements for children in Barnsley which means that we need to place children further than home address that we would want. There are very few children who need to be placed at a distance from Barnsley due to issues of risk or due to the need for a specialist resource provision that is not available locally. Most children need placements (fostering or residential) that are close to their family homes, their local communities and their local schools.

Although we did not reach our year-end target, we have undertaken significant work to increase capacity of local provision as part of our sufficiency strategy this includes the development of new children's homes and supported accommodation, and the development of new specialist foster schemes. These initiatives should support us to achieve this target and continue to increase the number of children placed locally.

Growing Barnsley

Ref	Critical Success Factors	Polarity	Year End Target 24/25	Year End Figure 24/25	Year End Target 25/26	Year End Figure 25/26
RG03	Number of Jobs Secured (EI Trailblazer)	High	New	New	400	161
PH01	Percentage of high risk food hygiene inspections carried out against inspections due (Risk Rating A and B)	High	New	New	95.00%	100.00%
GB05	Number of Private Sector Jobs created	High	676	727	675	870
GB09	Town Centre Footfall	High	7,695,992	9,180,502	7,695,992	9,315,027
GB10	Town Centre Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents	Low	500	376	500	363
HB05	Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents per 1,000 population	Low	18	16.77	18	17.20

Sustainable Barnsley

Ref	Critical Success Factors	Polarity	Year End Target 24/25	Year End Figure 24/25	Year End Target 25/26	Year End Figure 25/26
GB11	Number of New Homes Delivered <i>*reporting one quarter in arrears</i>	High	900	671	900	612
GB15	Number of placements to temporary accommodation	Low	400	460	460	540
RG02	Council Housing Decency Standards	Low	New	0.20%	0.00%	0.58%
GB16	Empty Home Rent Loss (previously termed void rent loss)	Low	1.05%	1.86%	1.50%	1.78%
SB03	Household Recycling <i>*reporting one quarter in arrears</i>	High	45.00%	46.08%	46.00%	42.98%
RG01	Rent Collection	High	New	100.52%	98.00%	98.58%
SB04	Visits to Museum Service Grounds, Outdoor Sites, and Parks	High	1,600,000	2,006,952	1,600,000	2,545,063

Sustainable Barnsley Supporting Narrative

Household Recycling

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. It is reported through WasteDataFlow, a national system, and is therefore reported one quarter in arrears, meaning the Quarter 4 position reflects Quarter 3 data. In 2025/26, the year-end figure was 42.98% against a target of 46%.

Recycling levels change throughout the year, with higher rates in spring and summer due to increased garden waste, and lower rates in autumn and winter, which is reflected in the targets set for each quarter. This year, performance was below target, mainly because some bulky items could not be recycled due to limited facilities and were instead used for energy recovery.

Nationally, there is a continued focus on improving recycling, with a long-term target of reaching 65% by 2035.

Council Housing Decency Standards

At the end of 2025/26, 134 properties (0.58% of housing stock) were assessed as Non-Decent. During the year, 67 properties were newly identified as Non-Decent. Of these, 16 properties require elemental replacement works, which are scheduled for delivery in 2026/27. The remaining 51 properties require hazard remediation. 41 of these properties were scheduled for remedial works during the year; however, access could not be gained. Further access attempts will be pursued as a priority.

In addition, 67 properties could not be accessed despite repeated attempts by both Berneslai Homes and appointed contractor surveyors. These properties will be subject to enhanced engagement during 2026/27 to secure access and enable a full review of outstanding elements.

Empty Home Rent Loss (previously termed void rent loss)

Empty Homes remains a key priority for Berneslai Homes. In August 2025 there were 377 empty properties. At the end of 2025/26 this had reduced to 273, leading to an overall improved position in 2025/26 of 0.14% compared to the previous year.

The Empty Homes Recovery Plan has generated positive outcomes and seen a significant increase in the number of lettings throughout the year. By year-end more than 200 additional empty homes had been let compared to the previous year having a significant positive impact on housing homeless families, reducing pressure on Bed and Breakfast accommodation, providing homes for kinship carers and care leavers and resolving delayed discharges from hospital. In addition, the increased number of transferring tenants has released limited larger and specially adapted properties to meet acute housing need.

An updated Empty Homes Plan is under development to ensure these positive trends continue in 2026/27.

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Number of New Homes Delivered

At a national level, the housing market continues to face sustained pressures. These include rising construction costs linked to inflation, ongoing labour shortages, and disruption to global supply chains. In addition, wider geopolitical factors have contributed to increased uncertainty within the development industry. Collectively, these pressures are affecting the viability of development, particularly on more marginal or complex sites, and are leading to delays in delivery.

This position has been further influenced by ongoing changes and uncertainty in the national planning system. Proposed reforms to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the emerging introduction of Spatial Development Strategies (SDS), and new requirements such as Biodiversity Net Gain have all contributed to a more cautious approach from developers. In many cases, this has resulted in slower decision-making, delayed starts on site, and a reduction in the number of new planning applications coming forward.

Locally, Barnsley continues to experience additional delivery constraints that are typical of many areas. These include pressures on infrastructure capacity, the complexity of bringing forward certain sites, and, in some cases, local community concerns about new development. While the Council has a strong Local Plan in place, which identifies land for housing, the rate at which these sites are built out is influenced by market conditions and developer activity, rather than the planning system alone.

It is also important to highlight that, despite the longer-term downward trend, Quarter 4 did see a 45% increase in completions compared to Quarter 3. This indicates some recovery in delivery rates, although the quarterly target of 225 dwellings was not met. This reflects the often uneven nature of housing delivery, where completions can fluctuate significantly between quarters depending on when sites are finished.

In response to these challenges, the Council continues to take a proactive role in supporting housing delivery. Planning permissions are being granted in line with the adopted Local Plan, and work is ongoing to unblock more complex or stalled sites where intervention may be needed. The Council also continues to engage with government and regional partners to respond to emerging policy changes and to support coordinated approaches to growth.

Housing delivery remains a key priority for both central government and the Council, given its importance in supporting economic growth, regeneration, and meeting local housing needs. While external factors continue to influence the pace of development, the Council remains committed to enabling high-quality, sustainable development, maintaining an effective planning service, and ensuring a strong pipeline of deliverable sites for the future.

In summary, while current performance reflects a challenging operating environment, it is consistent with wider national trends. The Council is actively managing these challenges and taking appropriate steps to support recovery in housing delivery over the medium to longer term.

Enabling Barnsley

Ref	Critical Success Factors	Polarity	Year End Target 24/25	Year End Figure 24/25	Year End Target 25/26	Year End Figure 25/26
OH1	Performance against Overall Budget	High	100.00%	98.60%	100.00%	96.00%
CORE1	Business Rates Collection Rate	High	98.00%	97.89%	98.00%	97.94%
CORE2	Council Tax Collection	High	96.50%	96.47%	96.50%	96.17%
OH6	Percentage of Disabled Employees	High	Monitor	13.80%	13.80%	13.50%
OH3	Percentage of Complaints Upheld	Low	Monitor	60.00%	60.00%	58.70%
OH2	Sickness Days per FTE	Low	8.5	9.2	9	8.67
OH5	Percentage of BME Employees	High	Monitor	2.60%	2.60%	3.11%

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Business Rates Collection Rate

The year end position for business rates collection has fallen short of the 98% target by 0.06% and represents an increase of 0.05% when compared to the position in 2024/2025.

This outcome reflects the broader economic challenges and increased cost pressures faced by businesses. The retail sector has continued to receive additional supplementary support this year, which aims to mitigate potential impacts and minimise collection risks while aiding businesses during this economically challenging period.

The collection position will continue to be closely monitored in the coming financial year to identify any potential risks.

Council Tax Collection

Council Tax collection reached 96.17% by year-end, just under the 96.5% target. Slightly lower than last year's figure by 0.3%.

This change is mainly due to the introduction of a new Council Tax Support scheme in April, which requires some households to pay more, coupled with the continuing cost of living crisis affecting those not eligible for support, which has led to increased collection activity.

Even with these difficulties, the collection rate remains strong. Planned improvements to collection methods for financially vulnerable households should help stabilise results as we head into 2026/2027.

Percentage of Disabled Employees

At year-end, 13.5% of employees who have completed the equality monitoring survey identify as disabled, compared to a corporate target of 13.8%. While this represents a slight shortfall against target, overall representation has remained stable across the year, with a gradual increase from earlier quarters.

Variations continue to be evident across directorates, reflecting differing workforce profiles and levels of disclosure. Ongoing activity has focused on improving the quality and completeness of monitoring data, increasing confidence in disclosure, and strengthening inclusive practices across the organisation. This includes continued promotion of the survey and reinforcing the importance of capturing accurate data to inform workforce planning and service delivery. The current position reflects both progress made in maintaining representation and the continued need to support disclosure.