



My Ref: FOI/ 4958
Your Ref:
Date: 22nd September 2025
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: -

For the purposes of this request, please include both Hackney carriage (taxi) and private hire vehicle (PHV) drivers, where data is available.

Please provide, where held, the following information:

- 1. The total number of licensed taxi and PHV drivers registered with your authority in each of the past five financial years (2019/20 to 2023/24 inclusive).**
 - a) If possible, please provide a breakdown of driver numbers by licence type (e.g. Hackney carriage, PHV, dual badge) for each year.**
- 2. Whether your authority currently requires licensed taxi and/or PHV drivers to complete safeguarding training as part of their initial licence application and/or renewal.**
 - a) Is this training delivered face-to-face, online, or both.**
- 3. Whether your authority currently requires licensed taxi and/or PHV drivers to complete disability awareness training as part of their initial licence application and/or renewal.**
 - a) Is this training delivered face-to-face, online, or both.**
- 4. The total number of drivers who completed each type of training (safeguarding and/or disability awareness) in each of the past five financial years (2019/20 to 2023/24 inclusive).**
- 5. The total annual spend by your authority on driver safeguarding and/or disability awareness training (if applicable) in each of the past five financial years. If training is paid for directly by drivers, please confirm this.**
- 6. If safeguarding or disability training is required, how frequently must drivers repeat or renew this training (e.g. every three years, one-off only, at each renewal)?**

7. **Does your authority maintain a central record of completed driver training (safeguarding/disability), or are drivers required to submit their own evidence?**
8. **Is your authority's current taxi/PHV driver training policy or guidance publicly available online? If so, please provide a link or URL.**
9. **Does your authority provide any support or alternatives for drivers with low digital literacy, disabilities, or other accessibility needs when completing mandatory training?**

In answer to your questions:

1. We are unable to provide a year-on-year breakdown of licences issued due to the way information is inputted and stored on our system. We can confirm that 691 dual driver licences were issued by our authority since 01/04/2019. This includes both new drivers and renewals. We only issue dual driver licences.
2. All applicants must complete a safeguarding session, which is delivered face-to-face.
3. Disability awareness training is provided as part of the theory test that all applicants are required to complete, face-to-face, and is included in the taxi driver theory test guidance notes.
4. All drivers have attended the safeguarding training either as new applicants or as current drivers attending refresher training. All new applicants have had the disability awareness training for this period.
5. Safeguarding is included as part of the theory test day. Applicants pay £65 to sit the test. Applicants who pass the theory test attend the safeguarding immediately afterwards. We cannot provide a breakdown of annual costs to the authority.
6. Drivers must attend safeguarding refresher training every year.
7. All drivers are required to attend annual safeguarding refresher training provided by the authority and their attendance is noted on their licence record on our system.
8. A copy of the Council's theory test guidance notes is available online: <https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/licences-and-permissions/taxi-licences/apply-for-a-new-taxi-drivers-licence/>
9. The authority will always take reasonable steps to assist drivers with additional needs.

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:

COPYRIGHT STATEMENT

(©) Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council

This information is a relevant copyright work for the purposes of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. It is owned solely by Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council but you are able to use and re-use it freely without charge, including for commercial purposes, in accordance with the terms of the Open Government Licence found at The National Archives Website <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence>

You can also write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU

When re- using the information please ensure that you:

Acknowledge the copyright and source of the information by including the following attribution statement: "Contains Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council information (©) Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council. Licensed under the Open Government Licence."

Include the same acknowledgement in any sub-licences you grant, and a requirement that any further sub-licences do the same.

Do not use the information in a way that suggests that Barnsley Council endorses you or your use of the information.

The information is licensed "as is". Barnsley Council is not liable for any errors or omissions in the information and shall not be liable for any loss, injury or damage of any kind caused by its use.

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

COPYRIGHT STATEMENT

(©) Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council

This information is a relevant copyright work for the purposes of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. It is owned solely by Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council but you are able to use and re-use it freely without charge, including for commercial purposes, in accordance with the terms of the Open Government Licence found at The National Archives Website <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence>

You can also write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU

When re- using the information please ensure that you:

Acknowledge the copyright and source of the information by including the following attribution statement: "Contains Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council information (©) Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council. Licensed under the Open Government Licence."

Include the same acknowledgement in any sub-licences you grant, and a requirement that any further sub-licences do the same.

Do not use the information in a way that suggests that Barnsley Council endorses you or your use of the information.

The information is licensed "as is". Barnsley Council is not liable for any errors or omissions in the information and shall not be liable for any loss, injury or damage of any kind caused by its use.

PO Box 634, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 9GG