



My Ref: FOI/ 4671
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: -

I am currently exploring the development of extra care housing/assisted living services within Barnsley. Given the council's commitment to market sustainability, workforce development, and improving care outcomes, I would be grateful for your insights into the following areas to help align our model with local priorities:

Strategic Commissioning & Vision

- **Is there a published strategy or vision for older people's services, including extra care housing?**

You can find some information on our Market Position Statement – link below:

[Adult social care market position statement 2024-2027](#)

We are currently developing a series of market shaping plans – one of these will be for older people's services and will include reference to older people's housing and extra care – once completed these will be published on our website.

The Council have a published Housing Strategy which sets out the commitment to improving access to housing for all and supporting people to live health, independent lives.

We are also working with the council's strategic housing team to inform the development of a broader housing strategy for Barnsley.

- **Has the council conducted a recent assessment of housing with care needs, particularly in light of the projected 34% increase in the older population by 2040 A?**

No

- **How are private sector providers engaged in shaping commissioning strategies and service models?**

There are a variety of ways private sector providers are engaged in shaping commissioning strategies and service models, this includes through contractual meetings, provider forums and through soft market tests published on Yortender.

- **What models of extra care are being considered to reduce reliance on traditional residential care?**

We are currently in the process of completing a review of extra care to inform future models. This will be completed by 2027.

Market Development & Financial Planning

- **Are there plans to open new tendering rounds for private housing with care providers?**

No

- **Have funding mechanisms such as regeneration grants, MSIF allocations, or capital incentives been explored?**

Not relevant currently.

- **What is the current cost structure for housing, care, and support in Barnsley—including equity-based models?**

The Council has no facilities of this type within its housing stock. The 11 older persons schemes managed by Berneslai Homes (on behalf of the Council) do not offer support, care or assistance.

- **Are there long-term business planning models (10–20+ years) that guide commissioning and value-for-money objectives?**

Commissioning plans are generally aligned to the priorities within the wider council plan along with other partner plans such as the NHS 10 year plan. The council's plan can be accessed here: [Council Plan](#)

Our market shaping plans will be long term plans but will be subject to review in accordance with changing legislation, market changes and supply and demand.

Engagement & Partnerships

- **Are there regular consultation forums or newsletters for private sector providers?**

The Council's Strategic Housing Team host bi-annual Registered Provider and House Builder Forums.

Commissioners host workshops for providers every six months. These are generally aimed at care providers but would not exclude housing providers if they feel it to be of interest.

- **What barriers have been identified for private sector engagement, and how are these being addressed?**

A recent survey of providers outlined the main barriers to engagement being time and relevance. Following the survey we have reviewed our engagement approach and implemented new structures to engagement. This includes using a mix of on-line and face to face engagement, information sharing and the use of other methods such as surveys.

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• Is there a pathway for emerging providers to contribute to future service development?

Where providers submit planning applications for new provision, the Strategic Housing Team and relevant stakeholders provide feedback to the Development Management Team to inform the decision making process, in accordance with national and local planning policy and guidance.

Where relevant commissioners will seek to engage with providers at the review stage of the commissioning cycle. This would include current and emerging providers. Providers interested in being part of this would need to log their contact details with the commissioning, improvement and assurance team. This can be done by e-mail to: adultscommissioningimprovementandassurance@barnsley.gov.uk

Planning & Development

• Does the council maintain a strategic land register suitable for extra care development?

The Council's Local Plan was adopted in 2019 and includes a range of allocations for residential development. The Local Plan seeks to deliver a mix of housing informed by the most relevant evidence base (Strategic Housing Market Assessment) in order to meet the present and future needs of all members of the community.

• Are there known private sector land banks or retrofit opportunities that could support new schemes?

No

• Has a planning or implementation group been formed to guide future extra care housing delivery?

No, this will be picked up within the planned review.

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

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PO Box 634, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 9GG

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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