

My Ref: FOI4497

Your Ref:

Date: 03/06/2025

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: -

I am writing to request access to the most up-to-date version of Barnsley Council's register of licensed Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs), as well as any related information held by the Council that may be relevant to the public interest and community research.

This information is being sought for inclusion in a non-commercial Local Information Library to support housing transparency and public understanding of residential occupancy types within the Barnsley borough.

Specifically, I would be grateful to receive:

- 1. The full HMO register including:
 - Property addresses
 - Licence holder names and correspondence addresses
- Manager details (if applicable)
- Licence start and expiry dates
- Maximum permitted occupiers and room breakdowns

The link to the publicised list relating to HMO's can be found here:

Licenced HMO list

2. Any recent or pending enforcement actions, notices, or decisions concerning HMOs within the last 12 months

After considering your request I have decided to refuse it under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act. This is because it is estimated that the time taken to provide the information would exceed the appropriate limit of £450, equivalent to 18 hours of staff time.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act is a provision which allows a public authority to refuse to comply with the request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed a set limit known as the appropriate limit.

The rationale for this is that the case management system employed by the Council does not easily permit scrutiny of cases by outcomes such as penalties or notices. A physical trawl of all actions listed against all cases involving a HMO would be required to determine an answer.

3. Any publicly available planning applications relating to HMOs

All planning applications relating to HMO's can be found on our website via this link

https://planningexplorer.barnsley.gov.uk/

If any portion of this request needs to be made formally under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please treat this letter as such. I am happy to receive the data in electronic format (PDF, CSV, or Excel preferred), and I am open to clarification if required.

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

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Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

Email: http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints

Kind regards,

Information Requests Team, Barnsley MBC

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