BARNSLEY
Metropolitan Borough Council

My Ref: FOI/ 4911
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. **The total cost to the council of graffiti removal for each of the past three financial years (2022/23, 2023/24, and year-to-date 2024/25).**

   We are unable to identify the full costs associated with graffiti removal for this time period but we have identified the known costs below which include officer salary costs and the purchase of a new graffiti removal machine in 2023.

   2022/2023 – £94,722
   2023/2024 – £81,510
   2024/2025 - £84,308

   Further ongoing costs include the hire of a vehicle (currently £170 per week), cleaning solutions and fluids, officer uniforms and paint for street furniture etc. Other costs would include fuel, insurance, road tax, servicing and machine/vehicle repairs as and when required.

2. **The total number of graffiti removal incidents recorded by the council for each of the same years.**

Year	Number of Reactive Graffiti Jobs	Number of proactive Graffiti Jobs	Total
Apr 2022-March 2023	264	1	265
Apr 2023-March 2024	182	150	332
Apr 2024-March 2025	291	482	773
Apr 2025-Sept 2025	181	362	543

3. **If held, a breakdown of graffiti incidents by category (e.g. hateful/offensive, political, obscene, or other categories the council uses) for the same period.**

   We do not hold data in this format, but the following reported cases have been recorded as highest priority which indicates the graffiti was offensive in some way or in a location that was deemed especially harmful.

2022/2023 – 6
2023/2024 – 50
2024/30 September 2025 – 43

4. If available, the location data (at ward or neighbourhood level, not precise addresses) of graffiti removals during this period

Please see below the breakdown of graffiti incidents by ward area. Please note this is cumulative data from 01/04/2022 to 30/09/2025.

Ward	Ward Count
Barnsley Ardsley Ward	27
Barnsley Athersley Ward	21
Barnsley Central Ward	309
Barnsley North West Ward	54
Barnsley Park Ward	64
Barnsley South West Ward	115
Barnsley Worsbrough Ward	39
Brierley Ward	8
Central Ward	207
Cudworth Ward	35
Darfield Ward	28
Darton East Ward	24
Darton Ward	28
Darton West Ward	17
Dearne North Ward	36
Dearne South Ward	14
Dearne Thurnscoe Ward	16
Dodworth Ward	54
Hoyland East Ward	14
Hoyland Milton Ward	18
Hoyland West Ward	14
Kingstone Ward	170
Monk Bretton Ward	43
North East Ward	18
Old Town ward	55
Penistone East Ward	12
Penistone West Ward	26
Rockingham Ward	18
Royston Ward	42
St Helens Ward	35
Stairfoot Ward	33

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Wombwell North Ward	10
Wombwell South Ward	21
Wombwell Ward	22
Worsbrough Ward	46
Unknown	220
Total	1913

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
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

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

Kind regards,

Information Requests Team, Barnsley MBC

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