



My Ref: FOI 6512
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: -

This request relates to the Council's own adult and community learning provision, that is, courses the Council delivers or arranges directly for adult learners (including provision funded through the Adult Skills Fund or tailored and community learning), rather than to any separate further education college. Please provide the following information for each of the last three full academic years (2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25):

Does the Council's adult and community learning service record domestic abuse as a reason for learner withdrawal, non-completion, or authorised absence in any of its learner record or safeguarding systems? (Yes/No. If yes, please state in which system or category it is recorded.)

How many safeguarding referrals, concerns or disclosures recorded by the adult and community learning service related wholly or partly to domestic abuse? (A number per academic year. If this cannot be separated from overall safeguarding figures, please state the total number of safeguarding referrals per year instead.)

Does the adult and community learning service hold a policy, procedure or guidance document that specifically addresses supporting learners who are experiencing or recovering from domestic abuse? (Yes/No. This means a document specific to learners and domestic abuse, rather than a general safeguarding policy.)

Has the adult and community learning service delivered any staff training in the last three academic years specifically on recognising or supporting learners affected by domestic abuse? (Yes/No. If yes, please state the number of staff trained, if held.)

If the Council does not deliver adult or community learning directly, I would be grateful if you could simply confirm that, as it is itself relevant to what I am researching. If any part of this request would exceed the cost limit under Section 12 of the Act, please treat the questions in the order listed and answer as many as possible within the limit, rather than refusing the request in full.

ASCL does not record domestic abuse as a reason for learner withdrawal, non-completion, or authorised absence in any of its learner record or safeguarding systems.

The number of referrals that explicitly state domestic abuse by year are shown below. This does not capture figures for learners who talk about domestic abuse following other disclosures or within conversation or class unless they explicitly want support.

2022/23 - 28

2023/24 - 20

2024/25 - 25

ASCL does not hold a policy, procedure or guidance document that specifically addresses supporting learners who are experiencing or recovering from domestic abuse. It works within standard safeguarding processes and procedures as they apply in an adult education context and is fully compliant with the requirements of the Education Inspection Framework.

The ASCL service invests in considerable CPD relating to supporting vulnerable adults. The number of staff by year undertaking training specifically on recognising or supporting learners affected by domestic abuse is shown below.

2022/23 - 35

2023/24 - 36

2024/25 - 5

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: -

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PO Box 634, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 9GG

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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