



My Ref: FOI/4470
Your Ref:
Date: 29/05/2025
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: -

Your questions and my findings are as follows:-

1. In the last full financial year for which records are available (or the period April 2024 - April 2025 if this is more readily available), did the local authority provide any evidence-based parenting groups in non-English languages?

- Non-English languages refers to spoken and sign languages (please note that the parenting group delivered in the non-English language should be about parenting, not language tuition or programmes for deaf individuals unless specifically about parenting).

-This includes groups delivered face-to-face or via virtual platforms but does not include online websites, online courses parents complete independently, or individual appointments between 1 family and 1 practitioner.

- 'Parenting groups' refers to any online or in-person group set up to deliver a set programme or curriculum to parents, offering parenting support of any nature, such as incredible years, nurture, or Triple P (or any similar group). These groups would typically be led by child development professionals, nurses, health visitors or similar qualified persons. It doesn't include toddler groups, coffee mornings or similar.

- I am interested in parenting groups for families of children of any age, from antenatal support up to support for parents of teenagers.

- I am only interested in parenting groups not 1:1 support, such as early help appointments or individual support in general. Therefore, practitioners who have used interpreters on an individualised basis separate to parenting group provisions, are not of interest to me. However, I am interested in 1:1 support if it was facilitated on a special basis as an extension/adjustment of a parenting group due to the non-English speaking parent requiring 1:1 interpreter support.

Please note, if no groups were provided in non-English languages please state, 'none provided'.

None Provided

If such support was delivered,

- 1a. In which languages were the groups provided?
1b. What were the names of these evidence-based parenting programs?
1c. How many parents/carers attended these groups?
1d. Aside from the change in language, were any differences implemented to parenting groups delivered in non-English languages in comparison to the groups delivered in English? 1e. Did the content have to be adapted, were new resources created, was it Virtual instead of in person?

N/A

2. In the last full financial year for which records are available (or the period April 2024-April 2025 if this information is more readily available), did the local authority provide any parents or carers with evidence-based parenting support as part of a parenting group using an interpreter? This could either be a group put on directly in a non-English language with an interpreter present/leading, or an English-language group with an interpreter hired for the sessions to support a non-English speaking parent. The use of 'interpreter' here refers to a formally recognised oral or sign language translator employed for this purpose, not a community or family member doing so unpaid.

Yes

If an interpreter was used,

2a. Which parenting groups were they supporting?

1 x Webster Stratton Incredible years, 1 x Talking Teens

2b. Which languages were the interpreters used for?

British sign language

2c. How many people were in each group supported by an interpreter?

1 in each group

2d. What was the total cost of interpreters for this purpose?

£4703.50

3. Has your Local Authority implemented any other changes to parenting programs to provide for parents or carers who don't speak English as a first language? If so, what was done?

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Parent handbooks for some evidence-based programmes are provided in Polish. Where an EAL need is made known during pre-session contact, we endeavour to arrange for a practitioner who speaks the same language to deliver the programme where possible. Programme information is made available in languages other than English in hub sites. Families are also signposted to online parent programmes that are available in some languages other than English. Equipment procured and in test to support live translation.

4. For the last full financial year for which records are available (or the period April 2024-April 2025 if this information is more readily available), in cases where the parent/carer only spoke a non-English language and there were difficulties obtaining an interpreter or alternative language provision, were there any instances of parenting support being delayed or provision not being possible?

Answer:

Yes

If so,

4a. Which languages does this apply to?

BSL

4b. How many parents/carers experienced a delay accessing support due to language barriers?

1

4c. How many parents/carers who didn't speak English were unable to access support in their own language, even if support was still offered in English?

None

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

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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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