



My Ref: EIR 6511
Enquiries to: Information Requests
E-Mail: informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk

Dear Requester,

Re: Request for Information – Environmental Information Regulations 2004

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: -

Note information would be shared with participants if requested
North Yorkshire Council (NYC) have gone through Local Government reorganisation resulting in 7 Borough Councils and 1 County Council becoming one authority. NYC area now the largest authority by area and the third largest by population.

NYC have a team of planning biased arboricultural officers who act as consultees to the planning team covering the following:

- **Conservation Area Notices**
- **Tree Preservation Order applications**
- **Planning applications – all aspect from householders to majors, discharge of conditions and PRE applications etc**

As part of the creation of the arboricultural team there was little data available to effectively work up the size of the team ideal to cover such a large geographic area.

This FOI is being requested to help provide information which can be used by the Tree and Woodland Team at NYC to assess and measure planning consultations inputs and outputs for the planning team.

We appreciate other local authorities will run slightly different models with arboricultural officers within the planning teams raising serving TPO's and working through the various associated processes. At NYC the arboricultural officers are consultees to the planning team and recommend TPO's which are then raised and served by the relevant planning officers.

By providing the following information you would be helping us benchmark our activities by councils of a similar size and bordering the NYC area. We are happy to share the information, once collated, if this would be of use to respondents. At NYC the arboricultural officers are part of a wider team of arboricultural specialists under the following structure (circa 18 at present):

	Tree and Woodland Manager	
Principal Arboricultural Officer (planning consultees full time)	Asset Manager (public tree management)	Operations Manager (tree operations works for NYC)
X3 Arboricultural Officers	X5 Tree Assessors	X2 Tree teams and multiple external contractors

Question		Response
1	How many full time equivalent arboricultural or tree officers are employed within the planning business area?	1
2	How many applications (planning, TPO and conservation area notices), in total, were considered, or consulted on, by the arboricultural or tree officers with during the period 1st Jan to 31st Dec 2025?	305
3	Do the arboricultural or tree officers within your authority deal with planning applications e.g. Pre apps, full, major, EIA, discharge of conditions etc If no go to 5	Yes
4	How many planning related applications including pre-applications, full, outline, reserved matters, discharge of conditions etc were considered or consulted on by arboricultural or tree officers during the period 1st Jan to 31st Dec 2025?	243
5	How many TPO's applications were considered or consulted by the arboricultural or tree officer(s) during the period of 1st Jan to 31st Dec 2025?	44
6	How many Conservation Area notices were considered or consulted during the period of 1st Jan to 31st Dec 2025?	18
7	How many new TPO's did your authority raise during 2025?	1
8	Who raises the TPO's, serves and compile the confirmation reports? (Arboricultural or tree officer or planning officer)	Tree Officer raises the TPO, writes the Order and makes the Plan this is then sent to Legal Services who get it signed and serve the Order

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PO Box 634, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 9GG

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
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

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

Kind regards,

Information Requests Team, Barnsley MBC

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