



My Ref: FOI 6556
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 would be obliged if the Council could provide me with the following information which relates directly to the application of Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) to planning applications in England.

- 1. Does the Council have an adopted development plan policy requiring planning applications to deliver a minimum of 10% BNG? Please provide details.**

No, there is no specific policy within the Local Plan that requires 10% BNG; however, development within masterplan framework development sites is expected to deliver 10% BNG. Reference to individual masterplan framework documents can be made here: <https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/planning-and-buildings/local-planning-and-development/local-plan/masterplan-frameworks/>

- 2. Does the Council have an adopted development plan policy requiring planning applications to deliver more than the minimum 10% BNG and do these apply to all sites i.e. greenfield or brownfield? Please provide details.**

No.

- 3. If no planning policies are currently adopted requiring a minimum of 10% BNG or more than 10% BNG, are local plans in preparation or published at regulation 18 or Regulation 19 stage 1 which require these Level(s) of BNG to be met?**

No.

- 4. Does the Council provide specific pre-application advice on BNG to developers other than as part of the general pre-application advice service?**

The council sets out BNG advice within the biodiversity appendix of the local validation requirements: <https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/yyhmuadm/biodiversity-appendix.pdf>

- 5. Has the Council developed its own Environment Bank to enable applicants/developers to deliver BNG off-site where the need arise or does it provide a list of recommended sites that have been secured through section agreements or conservation covenants?**

The council is currently working towards setting up a habitat bank on council-owned land. When assisting developers looking to purchase off-site units reference is either made to the biodiversity gain site register or the map produced by the Wildlife Trust <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/1cc6dce889244e57bd66443af22e4b49>

- 6. Does the Council keep information on the Level of BNG which has been provided on-site and off-site since 12 February 2024? If Yes can the amounts in area and Linear units be provided?**

This information is provided on pages 34 and 35 of the Biodiversity Duty Report. Refer to: <https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/hybhoxcq/biodiversity-duty-report.pdf>

- 7. Has the Council published its Biodiversity Duty Report as required under the Environment Act 2021?**

See above.

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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