



My Ref: FOI5308
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: -

Please could you answer the following questions related to your planning services.

Development management

- **How many full-time equivalent planning staff (not including administration staff) do you have on the establishment in your “development management team” or equivalent team?**

13.81 FTE

- **How many full time equivalent vacancies are there currently in your development management team?**

0

- **How many temporary staff or consultants are currently employed in your development management (or equivalent) team?**

None

Planning policy

- **How many full-time equivalent planning staff (not including administration staff) do you have on the establishment in your “planning policy team” or equivalent team?**

6.51

- **How many full time equivalent vacancies are there currently in your planning policy team.**

0

- **How many temporary staff or consultants are currently employed in your planning policy (or equivalent) team?**

None

Planning enforcement

- **How many full-time equivalent planning staff (not including administration staff) do you have on the establishment in your “planning enforcement team” or equivalent team?**

2

- **How many full time equivalent vacancies are there currently in your planning enforcement team.**

0

- **How many temporary staff or consultants are currently employed in your planning enforcement (or equivalent) team?**

None

Expert planning advisors

- **Does your local council have in-house expert planning advisors to deal with issues such as ecology, heritage and design?**
Yes – Ecology, trees, urban design and Heritage
- **Does your local council ever have to access external expert planning advice on such issues as ecology, heritage and design? If so, what areas do you have to request external advice on?**
Viability

Entry level planners

- **Do you fund entry level planning staff to undergo university courses or apprenticeships?**

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YES

- **If yes, how many entry level planners have you provided such funding for in the last 5 years?**

TWO

Case loads

What was the average annual case load that planning officers in your planning enforcement/development management teams were carrying in the financial years

a) 2020/21

Enforcement - 650
Development Management - 102

b) 2022/23 –

Enforcement - 720
Development Management – 91

c) 2024/25 –

Enforcement - 750
Development Management - 82

Local Plan

Does your council have an up to date local plan? If it does, when was it last formally approved?

Yes – 2019. This information is available via our website at the following address:

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/planning-and-buildings/local-planning-and-development/our-local-plan/barnsleys-local-plan/>

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.

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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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