



My Ref: FOI/ 5263
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 provide the following information covering the past five years (from 2019 to 2024), or for as many years within that period as records are available:

1. Number of Buildings

- The number of council-owned or managed buildings where bird netting is installed (please include current and, if known, past installations within the five-year period).

We have 5 sites with bird netting installed.

2. Bird Deaths and Entanglements

- The number of dead birds found in bird netting each year.

- The number of birds found trapped or entangled in bird netting each year, broken down by species if recorded.

- Of those found trapped, how many were found dead and how many were rescued alive.

- For any birds found alive, please state what happened to them (e.g., released on site, taken to a vet, taken to a wildlife rescue, handed to a pest control contractor, or culled).

BMBC does not hold this data and all pest control relating to netting of birds is contracted to a third-party company.

3. Monitoring and Maintenance

- How often the bird netting is inspected. – Monthly, we also ensure that any issues, damages are reported so that repairs can be carried out.

- How often the netting is repaired or replaced. – We have monthly building inspections. Any damages are reported for a repair/replacement to be undertaken.

- How many reports the council receives each year of trapped birds in its netting.

- How often the council checks that bird netting is not causing harm to birds and that it remains in good repair. - Monthly Inspections carried out.

4. Rationale and Alternatives

- The reasons the council uses bird netting on its buildings.

Bird netting is used on buildings to prevent birds from accessing areas where they might nest or roost. The netting acts as a physical barrier and reduces health risks by keeping birds away from droppings and diseases, keeps areas clean, and protects BMBC sites from bird-related damage.

- Whether alternatives to bird netting were considered before installation (and if so, what alternatives were assessed). No other options considered.

5. Financial Information

- The total amount spent by the council on bird netting installation, maintenance, and repair for each of the past five years. - £11,000 has been spent on repairs and installation over the last 3 years

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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