



My Ref: FOI5064
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: -

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the disclosure of the following information held by the Council relating to statutory Home-to-School and Post-16 Transport provision.

Please provide the following data for the last three complete academic years (e.g., 2022/23, 2023/24, and 2024/25, or the last three years for which data is available):

Part 1: Students Assessed for Transport Eligibility

For all children and young people who were assessed for eligibility for Local Authority-funded home-to-school, college or education transport on the grounds of Special Educational Needs, Disability, or Mobility Problems (under the relevant sections of the Education Act 1996):

1. The total number of such assessments/applications received.

	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
Number of Applications received	477	654	657

2. The total number of these students who were subsequently deemed eligible for transport assistance.

	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
Number of Approved transport applications	296	493	477

Part 2: Motability Scheme and Transport Provision

For the students deemed eligible for transport assistance (as per Question 2 above), please provide the following breakdown of the Council's records:

3. The total number of eligible students whose transport was ultimately provided by the Local Authority via dedicated contracted vehicle (e.g., shared taxi, private hire car, or contracted minibus).

The total number of eligible students whose transport was ultimately provided by the Local Authority via dedicated contracted vehicle

818

788

849

- 4. Of the students receiving dedicated contracted transport (as defined in Question 1 above), the number whose family or appointee declared the use of a Motability Scheme vehicle as part of the transport application/assessment process.**

We do not ask for information on Motability schemes.

- 5. If possible, provide the cost of the student's dedicated contracted transport whose family or appointee declared the use of a Motability Scheme vehicle**

We do not ask for information on Motability schemes.

Part 3: Policy Information

- 6. Do you require families or appointees to declare whether or not they have a Motability Scheme vehicle when applying/assessing for transport-to-school or education**

We do not ask for information on Motability schemes.

- 7. Please provide a copy of the section of your most recent Home-to-School/College Transport Policy or associated guidance that specifically addresses the existence or use of a Motability Scheme vehicle by a family when determining their eligibility for transport-to-school or education and the type of support they can receive (mileage, contracted transport etc.)**

Section 3.24 – Mobility Problems

Where a pupil has mobility problems, the LA will consider whether the pupil can reasonably be expected to walk to school. This includes consideration of:

- The pupil's physical ability to walk the distance.
- Whether the pupil could reasonably be expected to walk if accompanied.
- Whether the parent/carer is able to accompany the pupil.

The existence of a family car or Motability vehicle does not automatically exclude eligibility for travel assistance. Each case is considered on its own merits, and the LA will take into account the individual circumstances, including:

- Whether the vehicle is available for school transport.
- Whether the parent/carer is able to drive the pupil to school.

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- Whether the vehicle is used for other essential purposes (e.g. transporting other disabled family members).

I would prefer to receive the information in an electronic format, ideally as a data table (e.g., CSV or Excel) or in the body of the email.

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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