



My Ref: FOI4579
Your Ref:
Date: 24/06/2025
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: -

Your questions and my findings are as follows:-

Subject: Freedom of Information Request – Illegal/Counterfeit Tobacco/Cigarettes Seizures and Prosecutions

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing to request information regarding the seizure of illegal/counterfeit tobacco and cigarettes within the jurisdiction of Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council and subsequent prosecutions initiated by the trading standards officers.

Specifically, I request the following information for each of the past five years, starting from January 1, 2019:

Seizure Data:

- 1. The total quantity of illegal/counterfeit tobacco (e.g., number of cigarettes, kilograms of hand-rolling tobacco, or other relevant measures) seized by trading standards officers each year.**

22-23 Cigarettes 140810 HRT 1228 x 50g
23-24 Cigarettes 17189 HRT 172 x 50g
24-25 Cigarettes 18800 HRT 77 x 50g

- 2. The total number of instances (i.e., separate occasions) of such seizures each year.**

22-23 18
23-24 5
24-25 5

Prosecutions:

1.The number of prosecutions launched by trading standards against sellers of illegal/counterfeit tobacco and cigarettes each year.

All offences included smuggled/non duty paid/non compliant with UK labelling requirements offences. Where tobacco products also counterfeit (breached Trade Marks Act) these are indicated below.

22-23	5	2 included Trade Mark offences
23-24	3	1 included Trade Marks Offences
24-25	4	2 included Trade Marks Offences

2.The number of successful prosecutions each year.

22-23	5
23-24	2
24-252 to date.	1 of concluded cases included Trade Marks Offences.

3. The number of unsuccessful prosecutions each year.

22-23	0
23-24	1 Case withdrawn as Defendant untraceable in the UK.
24-25	0 to date

If possible, please provide the data in a structured format (e.g., spreadsheet or table) and clarify any definitions used for "cases" or "illegal tobacco products" (e.g., counterfeit, smuggled, or non-compliant products). If certain data is unavailable or incomplete, please provide what is available and note any limitations.

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

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PO Box 634, Barnsley, South Yorkshire 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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