



My Ref: FOI 6648
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: -

This request concerns the recently installed gate and associated fencing at the council's Smithies Yard premises in Barnsley. Historic Street View imagery from August 2024 appears to show fencing at the location before the gate was installed. Please provide the following recorded information:

1. The date on which the gate was ordered.

19th November 2025.

2. The date or dates on which the gate and any associated fencing were installed.

Week commencing January 5th 2026

3. The name of the council department, service or body that commissioned the work.

Environment and Transport.

4. Copies of the relevant works order, purchase order, quotation, tender, contract and invoice.

This information is exempt under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as disclosure would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of a third party. If disclosed into the public domain this would give competitors a competitive advantage against the supplier when bidding for tenders for similar projects, as well as disclosing sensitive information about the design of the gate.

This is also in part exempt under Section 31(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for the reasons explained in response to Q5.

5. The name of the contractor or supplier responsible for designing, manufacturing and installing the gate.

This information is exempt under Section 31(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as disclosure would be likely to inhibit the prevention or detection of crime.

The withheld information concerns the manufacture, design, specification, installation, use and operation of a security gate installed to control access to the site and protect people, property and assets. Disclosure into the public domain would be likely to reveal the gate's security capabilities, operational arrangements and potential vulnerabilities, enabling individuals to assess how the measure might be circumvented, disabled or exploited. There is therefore a real and significant risk that disclosure would undermine the gate's protective purpose, increase the site's vulnerability to unauthorised access, theft, criminal damage or other offending, and prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. Section 31(1)(a) is a qualified exemption, and the Council recognises the public interest in transparency about public expenditure and decision-making; however, this is outweighed by the stronger public interest in maintaining effective site security, protecting people and public assets, and avoiding the increased risk and cost that could arise from placing detailed security information in the public domain.

6. The total cost of the project, itemised where recorded, including: Design and planning costs Manufacture and supply Installation Associated fencing or groundwork Electrical or access control equipment Professional or consultancy fees Highway or safety assessments Subsequent alterations, remedial works or callouts

Total cost of project: £423,216 (this includes additional security infrastructure at the staff car park, a new security cabin, and other site works).

7. The budget or cost centre from which the expenditure was paid.

N-01072-002-001

8. The name or job title of the officer who authorised the purchase and installation. I am not requesting the personal names of junior employees where disclosure would be inappropriate.

9.

Group Leader – Fleet and Depot Services

10. Copies of any approval, business case, delegated decision, internal authorisation or expenditure request relating to the project.

As Q5

11. The planning application reference relating to the gate or fencing and the date on which the application was submitted.

2025/0693 – Submitted 4th August 2025 and decision notice issued on 23rd September 2025.

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12. The date the planning application was withdrawn and copies of any recorded information explaining why it was withdrawn.

The planning application was not withdrawn. Planning application was approved.

13. Whether the gate had already been ordered, manufactured or installed when the planning application was withdrawn. Please provide the relevant dates and supporting records.

The gate was ordered on 19th November 2025.

14. Copies of the plans, drawings and specifications showing: • The proposed and installed height of the gate • Its width and precise position • The direction in which it was designed to open • Its distance from the highway boundary • The height of the fencing it replaced

As Q5

15. Copies of any correspondence or advice from the council's planning, highways, legal, property, health and safety or facilities teams concerning the gate.

As Q5

16. Copies of any risk assessment, highway assessment, safety inspection or compliance report concerning whether the gate could open or swing over the adjoining road or public highway.

The gate does not swing or open over the adjoining road or public highway, as such no assessment was necessary or is held by the council.

17. Copies of any recorded concerns that the gate was higher than permitted, approved or originally specified.

We do not hold this information.

18. Confirmation of whether the gate is currently operational. If it is not operational, please provide any recorded reason for it being taken out of use or not brought into use.

As Q5

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19. The dates on which the gate has been used operationally, if this information is recorded through an electronic access control, maintenance or operational system.

As Q5

20. Copies of any defect report, complaint, inspection report, maintenance record or instruction preventing or restricting use of the gate.

As Q5

21. Details of any alteration, removal or replacement work that has been proposed, ordered or completed, together with the estimated or actual cost.

As Q5

22. Details of any refund, credit, compensation, insurance payment or recovery of costs sought from or received from the contractor, designer or supplier.

As Q5

23. Copies of any recorded correspondence with the contractor concerning the gate's dimensions, opening direction, planning status, highway implications or usability.

As Q5

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

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PO Box 634, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 9GG

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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