



My Ref: FOI 5979
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: -

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025.

1. Licensed drivers

**The total number of licensed:
Taxi (hackney carriage) drivers
Private hire drivers.
704**

2. Applications and licensing decisions

The number of driver licence applications:

*** Received** – This would be exempt under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act. To provide this information we would have to manually check each record which would take 20 minutes for each record and there is an estimate of 750 records meaning that the time taken to provide the information would exceed the appropriate limit of 18 hours.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act is a provision which allows a public authority to refuse to comply with the request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed a set limit known as the appropriate limit. In this case it is estimated that to search for the information you have requested it will take more than the 18 hours, equivalent to a cost of £450 and this is the basis of the decision.

*** Granted** - 499 new and renewals

*** Refused** - 6

3. Suspensions and revocations

The number of driver licences:

*** Suspended** - 4

*** Revoked** - 15

Where recorded, please indicate how many were related to:

- * Sexual offences - 1**
- * Violent offences - 2**

4. Safeguarding and adverse information decisions

For the purposes of this request, “adverse information” includes: criminal convictions, police intelligence, safeguarding referrals and any other information considered relevant to the “fit and proper person” assessment

Please provide the number of cases where a taxi or private hire driver licence was granted, or renewed, where adverse information was known to the authority at the time of the decision. - 15

Where possible, please also indicate:

How many of these cases involved sexual or violent offences (convicted or otherwise, where recorded) - This would be exempt under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act. To provide this information we would have to manually check each record which would take 20 minutes for each record and there is an estimate of 750 records meaning that the time taken to provide the information would exceed the appropriate limit of 18 hours.

Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act is a provision which allows a public authority to refuse to comply with the request for information where the cost of compliance is estimated to exceed a set limit known as the appropriate limit. In this case it is estimated that to search for the information you have requested it will take more than the 18 hours, equivalent to a cost of £450 and this is the basis of the decision

If exact categorisation is not held, please provide any internal category used to record such decisions.

Same as above

5. Background checks and safeguarding systems

Please confirm:

a) Whether your authority uses the NR3 register when assessing applicants (Yes/No) - Yes

b) Whether your authority subscribes to the DBS Update Service for ongoing monitoring (Yes/No) - Yes

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c) How frequently enhanced DBS checks are required for licensed drivers:

- * At application only**
- * At renewal**
- * Other (please specify)**

At application, renewal and every 6 months

6. Private hire operators (including app-based services)

The number of licensed private hire operators under your authority, including app-based booking platforms such as Uber, Bolt or similar services where licensed locally.

Where available, please provide:

- * Number of operator licences granted - 93**
- * Refused - None**
- * Suspended or revoked - None**
- * Any enforcement action taken against operators - None**

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: -

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PO Box 634, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 9GG

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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