



My Ref: FOI 6263
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: -

1. Do your roadworks and highway-maintenance contracts place an explicit obligation on contractors to remove all temporary signage, sign frames, sandbags and traffic cones on completion of the works, and if so, within what timescale?

There is already an obligation on all statutory undertakers through section 74 of the New Roads and Streetworks Act 1991 and The Street Works (Charges for Unreasonably Prolonged Occupation of the Highway) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012. Traffic management providers under contract to the council are expected to remove all traffic management items on completion of works and abide by all relevant codes of practice and guidance documents.

2. When contractors bid on these contracts, do they include and charge you for the cost of that equipment? A general description of the contractual treatment is sufficient; we do not seek commercially sensitive rates. If you are able to share an indicative or aggregate value without breaching commercial confidence, that would be welcome.

Yes, traffic management contractors charge the council for their services. The tendered rates shall be deemed to include all costs associated with installation, maintenance and removal of traffic management.

3. Once the works are complete, do your contractors (or the utilities and works promoters operating under your permit scheme) have any contractual or commercial incentive to recover that equipment, and is non-recovery subject to any penalty, performance deduction or recharge?

Again, this is covered by legislation in the New Roads and Streetworks Act 1991, see question 1. Council traffic management contractors are expected to remove items when no longer required per their contract. If any items are found to be left on site the contractor will be instructed to remove the items from the highway without delay at no additional cost to the council.

4. Are contractors' removal of redundant equipment inspected or monitored? In 2024/25 and 2025/26 to date, how many times have you applied a penalty, performance deduction or recharge for failure to remove redundant roadworks

equipment, and what total sum did that amount to? If this is not recorded, please say so.

Various inspection types are undertaken on streetworks activities, if any items are found after works are concluded they will be dealt with as appropriate. Section 74 of the New Roads and Streetworks Act provides for a penalty system if statutory undertakers leave traffic management on site after the end date of works. In 2024/25, 40 section 74 charges were issued for items left on site after works completed, with a sum total of £7,450 charged to statutory undertakers. In 2025/26, 57 section 74 charges were issued for items left on site after works completed, with a sum total of £20,100 charged to statutory undertakers. This does not include section 74 charges issued for other reasons, such as overrunning works and open excavations.

5. For the two financial years 2024/25 and 2025/26 to date, broken down by year: how many reports of abandoned or redundant roadworks equipment did you receive; how many items or loads (or, if recorded, what tonnage) did you remove; and how many reports were recorded as cleared? If you do not record this in a distinct category, please say so.

Not recorded.

6. What was your total expenditure on clearing abandoned or redundant roadworks equipment in 2024/25 and in 2025/26 to date, including labour, plant, traffic management, disposal and contractor charges? If this is not kept separate from general highway maintenance or street-cleansing budgets, please confirm that.

Not recorded.

7. Approximately how much does it cost you to clear a single report, item, or a typical clearance visit? If this is not recorded, an estimate, or the basis you would use, is welcome.

Not recorded. Single items or small loads will typically be picked up by highways operatives when en route to other sites, so costs are not recorded separately.

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:

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PO Box 634, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 9GG

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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