



My Ref: FOI 6346
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: -

FOI Request regarding the Monk Bretton Ward/Lundwood area, Can I have the first two separate and not bundle in to one.

1. Total Crime Reports and the nature of the crimes.

The number of crime reports and the nature of those reports is data held by South Yorkshire Police.

2. Total ASB and the nature of the incidents that were reported by people who live in the area.

Cases involving ASB often include other concerns such as neighbour disputes. Barnsley MBC does not hold crime data solely relating to ASB and many residents may contact South Yorkshire Police rather than the Barnsley MBC.

3. Barnsley Council assessment of both above for the entire ward.

The Service is not in a position to share an opinionated assessment of these wards.

4. Measures taken to reduce the crime/ASB.

Barnsley MBC works in partnership with many agencies and services to proactively and reactively reduce ASB across the borough, including these specific wards. These interactions include patrols on foot and in vehicles, the issuing of formal warnings, notices, and where necessary Civil Injunctions, Closure Orders or seeking possession (BH tenancies only).

5. Success rate of reducing the crime/ASB.

Barnsley MBC and its partners have a robust stance on tackling ASB through education and enforcement, as evidenced by the steady and consistent decline in incidents over recent years. ASB, particularly environmental or street related ASB, can be impacted by adverse weather for example, and so it would not be accurate to attribute any reduction of ASB with a specific intervention.

6. Total number of ASB staff managing the ward.

ASB is managed by different teams that operate across the borough. Some colleagues, such as the area council proactive team, focus on housing disrepair, hoarding and landlord malpractice but will also deal with cases involving ASB.

7. Total number of wardens.

There are 11 neighbourhood wardens that work across the whole borough of Barnsley. Wardens are not allocated to specific areas.

8. Total number of ASB orders/warnings given out.

The case management system does not allow scrutiny by filters such as the number or warnings given out, as correspondence may also relate to other matters such as inconsiderate parking. Due to legislative changes, ASB Orders have not been used since 2015.

9. Total Evictions due to ASB.

This information and information that is required to be collated from the case management system is exempt under Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act. This is because it is estimated that the time taken to provide the information would exceed the appropriate limit of 18 hours. This is due to the case management system used not allowing this level of scrutiny without accessing every detail and case note of every action log pertaining to every case. This is because the determining factor in evictions (possession proceedings) may be ASB, in many more instances it plays a lesser role, for example where possession is being sought primarily because of rent arrears

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 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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