

**From:** Freedom of Information Requests

**Sent:** 30 July 2025 15:26

**To:**

**Subject:** EIR Response -

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your Environmental Information Regulation request dated 8 July 2025 for information about Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) planning applications. Please find below City of Doncaster Council's responses to the questions you have raised.

Please provide the following data for the period from 12 February 2024 to the date of your response.

**Planning Application Decisions:**

1. The total number of planning applications refused where failure to meet the statutory Biodiversity Net Gain requirement was a primary or contributing reason for refusal.

Response: This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 21 of the Freedom of information Act. Section 21 exempts information from the right of access if that information is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means. In this case the information is available on our website here: [View planning applications - City of Doncaster Council](#)

2. The total number of planning applications that have been delayed or had a decision withheld pending the submission or approval of a satisfactory BNG plan.
3. For the applications delayed due to BNG requirements (as identified in question 1), what has been the average length of the delay, measured in weeks, from the initial target decision date?

Response: None

**BNG Enforcement:**

4. The total number of enforcement actions or formal investigations the council has initiated related to non-compliance with BNG obligations on approved developments.
5. The total number of financial penalties or fines that have been issued by the council for breaches of BNG requirements and the total monetary value (£) of these penalties.

Response: None

**Reasons for Planning Delays (Context):**

6. A list of the five most common reasons cited for delays in determining planning applications within your council since 12 February 2024. If possible, please indicate the percentage of total delays each reason accounts for, to help contextualise the impact of BNG relative to other factors.

Response: The Environmental Information Regulation provides a right of access, subject to certain exceptions, to recorded information held by public authorities. It does not require public authorities to express opinions or comment upon matters, as this question requires the expression of comments, this information is not held.

I hope that this information is useful to you.

The City of Doncaster Council estimates that it has cost £49 to respond to this request for information.

**Reviewing any decisions made:**

If you are not happy with this reply you can ask us to review our response. To do this write to us within 40 working days of receiving your response at the address below or email [FOIAppeals@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:FOIAppeals@doncaster.gov.uk)

If you do not agree with the review decision you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision about our compliance or otherwise with the Freedom of Information legislation. Contact details for the ICO are: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk) Telephone 0303 123 1113.

Yours faithfully,

**Ellen Dook**  
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