

Archived: 20 May 2025 13:53:44

From: [FOI Responses](#)

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Freedom of Information Request [REDACTED]

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

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Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 6<sup>th</sup> May 2025 for information about Japanese Knotweed. Please find below City of Doncaster Council's responses to the questions you have raised.

**Request:**

1. How many complaints related to Japanese Knotweed in domestic gardens did the council receive in the following years; 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021 and 2020.
2. Of the above complaints relating to Japanese knotweed in domestic gardens, how many of the following actions were taken in 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021 and 2020.
  - a. Section 80; Abatement Notice under the Environmental Protection 1990 and under which subsection of section 79.
  - b. Community Protection Notice under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

**Response:**

Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act allows for a request for information to be refused where the cost of supplying this information exceeds the appropriate limit. After carefully considering your request for information the City of Doncaster Council has decided that to respond to your request would exceed the appropriate limit as defined in the [Freedom of Information \(Appropriate Limit and Fees\) Regulations 2004](#). The regulations allow a request for information to be refused where the cost of supplying this information exceeds £450 (or 18 hours of officer time).

The cost limit applies in this case because (the City of Doncaster Council does not hold a central record of this information and in order to determine complaints relating to Japanese knotweed a total of 1680 records will need to be reviewed. It is estimated that each record will require 2-minute investigation. As details of 1680 records require review in order to determine this information this would result in a total time of approximately 56 hours which would exceed the time limit).

**Question 3:** Please provide a link or attachment of any policy or procedure related to Japanese knotweed complaints the local authority utilises when handling complaints on the invasive plant.

**Response:** Information regarding Japanese knotweed and the City of Doncaster Council's processes can be located here:

[Japanese knotweed - City of Doncaster Council](#)

I hope that this information is useful to you.

City of Doncaster Council estimates that it has cost £49.00 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 sincerely,  
Sophie

**Sophie Ormshaw**

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Please treat the content of this e-mail as confidential. If you have received this e-mail and it is not addressed to you please accept my apologies and inform me as soon as possible.

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 6, 2025 10:56 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Freedom of Information Request/Environmental Information Regulations 2004

Caution! This message was sent from outside your organization.

[Allow sender](#)

To whom it may concern,

Please find below a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

1. How many complaints related to Japanese Knotweed in domestic gardens did the council receive in the following years; 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021 and 2020.
2. Of the above complaints relating to Japanese knotweed in domestic gardens, how many of the following actions were taken in 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021 and 2020.
  - a. Section 80; Abatement Notice under the Environmental Protection 1990 and under which subsection of section 79.
  - b. Community Protection Notice under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

3. Please provide a link or attachment of any policy or procedure related to Japanese knotweed complaints the local authority utilises when handling complaints on the invasive plant.

If you can please reply via the email sent: [REDACTED]

Kind regards

[REDACTED]