



I am requesting information regarding the implementation and impact of the mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) requirement on planning applications submitted to your council.

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.

This information is accessible via the Council's website at the following link. The requestor would have to consider the reasons for refusal on each Decision Notice. Please utilise the search function available on this webpage accordingly:

[Search and comment on planning applications](#)

Support and guidance on how to search the information the Council holds on this section of its website is available on the above webpage, but is also provided in the accompanying 'Public Access User Guide' PDF document and via the link to the relevant page on the Council's website below:

[Idox PA for Planning User Guide](#)

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.

The Council does not hold the information that would allow an answer to this question to be provided. Planning applications can be complex and can be 'delayed' for a host of different reasons, including BNG, but the Council does not hold information or keep records on specific reasons as to why applications may be 'delayed' or miss their statutory targets.

Length of Delays:

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?

As per the response to Q2. above, the Council does not hold information in this form or in manner that a response to this question could be formulated.

BNG Enforcement:

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| 4. The total number of enforcement actions or formal investigations the council has initiated related to non-compliance with BNG obligations on approved developments. | 0 |
| 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. | 0 |

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.

As per the response to Q2. of this request, the Council doesn't hold records, or doesn't cite, reasons as to why planning applications may be 'delayed' or only be determined post their statutory timescale. On complex applications multiple issues might result in these delays.