



Please provide the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, covering the past five years (2019–2024) or as many years as data is available:

1. Buildings:

- a. Number of council-owned/managed buildings with bird netting installed.

There are six buildings with bird netting installed.

2. Bird Deaths & Trapped Birds:

- a. Number of dead birds found in netting each year.
- b. Number of birds trapped in netting each year, broken down by species if recorded.
- c. How many trapped birds were dead vs rescued alive.
- d. For any birds found alive: what happened to them (e.g., released, taken to vet/rescue, handed to contractor, culled).

Wigan Life Centre South (PFI) building – 1 dead bird per year, Makinson Arcade – 2 dead birds

Wigan Town Hall - 2 pigeons, Wigan Life Centre South – 1 pigeon

3 dead vs 3 alive

Released

3. Inspections & Maintenance:

- a. How often netting is inspected, repaired or replaced.
- b. How many reports of trapped birds the council receives each year.
- c. How often the council checks netting to ensure it is not harming birds.

Wigan Life Centre South – once a year
All other buildings are inspected visually during site checks on a regular basis. Repaired as and when defects are detected.

On average 6-10 calls for corporate buildings

Building Service Officers and Building Surveyors check corporate buildings on a regular basis during site visits and when completing other statutory checks on buildings.

4. Rationale & Alternatives:

- a. Reasons for using bird netting on council buildings.
- b. Whether alternatives were considered, and if so, which.

To prevent infestations from occurring, prevent defecation on plant equipment and faeces causing corrosion to equipment.

Other alternatives have been considered, bird spikes and pigeon gel – however these have been deemed as not fit for purpose for some buildings and ineffective on others.

5. Costs:

- a. Annual spending on installation, maintenance, and repair of bird netting.

Wigan Life Centre South – approx. £500pa.
Other buildings low value adhoc.