



Information Governance

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Please contact Information Governance
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Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: REQ06170**

Thank you for your request for information relating to non-payment of Council Tax.

Your request and our responses are outlined below:

We are asking for information for the period 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019 (2018/19).

1. How many liability order proceedings for non-payment of council tax were commenced in 2018/19?

23,400.

2. What was the mean average value of council tax owed for the proceedings commenced as identified in question 1?

£617.

3. In 2018/19 against how many people did the local authority commence committal proceedings with regard to unpaid council tax?

99.

4. In 2018/19 against how many people did the local authority seek attachment of earnings orders to collect unpaid council tax?

1,006.

5. In how many cases were these attachment orders successfully made?

We can confirm that we do not hold this information and are advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act. Our system does not record this data.

6. In 2018/19 against how many people did the local authority seek to collect payments directly from welfare benefits paid by the DWP with regard to unpaid council tax?

3,579.

7. In how many cases were these requests for deductions from benefits successfully made?

3,126.

8. In 2018/19 how many people did the local authority commence proceedings to make someone bankrupt due to council tax arrears?

8.

9. What was the mean average level of council tax debt for all the people against whom these bankruptcy proceedings were successful?

No bankruptcy orders obtained as yet average amount £7619.76.

10. In how many cases was the bankruptcy successfully made?

No bankruptcy orders obtained as yet.

11. What were the total additional charges added to the debt as a result of these successful bankruptcy proceedings including fees charged by the Insolvency Service and Insolvency Practitioners?

Please see the response to question 10 above.

12. In 2018/19 how many times did the council instruct a bailiff to collect council tax arrears subject to a liability order?

19,194.

13. What was the mean average level of the debts that led to these instructions to bailiffs?

£628.

14. What was the outcome of the council tax committal proceedings identified in question 3?

4 cases paid, 16 cases adjourned, 70 arrest warrants, 7 suspended committal orders, 1 case remitted, 1 case dismissed.

15. How many people were committed to prison for non-payment of council tax in 2018/19?

2.

16. What was the overall total number of days served in prison by all of the people committed to prison for non-payment of council tax owed to the local authority in 2018/19?

44.

17. How many people were subject to a suspended committal order due to non-payment of council tax in 2018/19?

23.

18. How many people subject to a suspended committal order in 2018/19 were subsequently committed to prison because they did not comply with the terms of the suspended order?

None.

19. How many people subject to a suspended committal order before 2018/19 for non-payment of council tax were committed to prison in 2018/19 because they did not comply with the terms of the suspended order?

2.

20. In how many cases did the people subject to a committal order in 2018/19 clear the debt and avoid imprisonment?

4.

21. In how many cases did the people subject to a committal order in 2018/19 and imprisoned subsequently clear the debt and so reduced their prison term?

1.

22. In how many cases did people subject to a suspended committal order in 2018/19 maintain the required payments for the duration of the order or to date?

13.

23. What was the total amount of council tax arrears owed by people subject to council tax committal proceedings in 2018/19 when the proceedings commenced?

£204,800.

24. What was the total amount of council tax arrears remitted by the local authority in 2018/19 under section 13A of the local government act?

£117,000.

25. What was the total amount of council tax arrears remitted by the magistrates Court in 2018/19?

£5,657.

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If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email casework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance