



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI580223874

Thank you for your request for information relating to Council tax debt.

You have requested the following information:

The figures for each of the following financial years 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2022-23, 2023-24 (to current date):

1. What is the total value of unpaid council tax debt owed to the council at the end of each financial year, To current date for 2023-24?

In response to Question 1, we confirm the information you requested falls under the exemption(s) in Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which relates to 'information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.'

The exemption applies as the information is published and publicly available to view by accessing the Council Tax statistics on the Government website, please use the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/council-tax-statistics>

This exemption is not subject to the public interest test.

2. What is the total value of unpaid council tax debt owed to the council by a social housing provider at the end of each financial year, To current date for 2023-24?

3. Please list the total value of unpaid council tax debt owed to the council by each individual social housing provider at the end of each financial year, To current date for 2023-24?

4. For each year what was the total value of social housing provider council tax debt accrued in the 12 month period, To current date for 2023-24?

In response to Questions 2 to 4, we confirm we hold the information which you have asked for, but we have estimated that the cost of meeting your request would exceed the cost limit of £450 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees Regulations 2004). This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours or more, in determining whether the information is held, locating, retrieving and extracting it.

The requested information is not held in a reportable format, due to there being approximately 150,000 properties in Coventry. Therefore, the time it would take to manually locate, retrieve and extract each record we hold on every social housing landlord for each property, would exceed the 18 hours working limit. Therefore, this part of your request has been refused under section 12(2) of the Act.

However, in order to fulfil our obligations under Section 16 of the FOI Act to advise and assist you, we advise that there are approximately 1,500 registered social housing landlords. Please refer to the link below for further information on our registered providers:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/registered-providers-of-social-housing>

5. What is the council policy around court summons and bailiff action for social housing providers with outstanding debt?

In response to Question 5, the information you requested falls under the exemption(s) in Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which relates to 'information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.'

The exemption applies as the information is published and publicly available to view by accessing the Council Tax Debt Recovery policy on the Council website, please use the following link:

<https://www.coventry.gov.uk/council-tax/happens-i-dont-pay-council-tax/3>

This exemption is not subject to the public interest test.

6. What is the council policy around issuing class B exemption. Does the council automatically award a social housing provider, does the social housing provider have to request once per property or every account change?

We confirm we currently automatically award class B exemption to our social housing providers.

The supply of information in response to a FOI request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: [FOI/EIR Disclosure Log](#), [Publication](#)

[Scheme](#), [Facts about Coventry](#) and [Open Data](#) that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

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 icocasework@ico.org.uk.

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

Yours faithfully

Information Governance