



Information Governance Team

Postal Address:
Coventry City Council
PO Box 15
Council House
Coventry
CV1 5RR

www.coventry.gov.uk

E-mail: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

Phone: 024 7697 5408

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI647387124

Thank you for your request for information relating to council tax arrears.

You have requested the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information regarding council tax arrears in your jurisdiction.

1. Total Number of Council Tax Arrears Cases

a) Please provide the total number of council tax accounts that are currently in arrears as of the date of this request, regardless of whether they have been referred for legal recovery.

b) Additionally, please provide the total amount of council tax owed across all accounts in arrears identified in part 1a.

Total council tax arrears cases: 27,487

Total arrears amount: £25,392,512.47

2. Top Three Largest Council Tax Arrears by Individual Accounts

Please provide the top three biggest outstanding council tax arrears owed by account holders as of the date of this request. For each of the three cases, please include:

o The arrears amount

o The length of time since the debt was first referred to recovery or legal action

o The first three digits of the postcode where the account is registered (or, if the area is sparsely populated, the first two digits; if this would still be too revealing of personal data,

I'm happy for you to omit this part of the question)

Case 1:

Arrears amount: £409,944.08

Length of time since first referred: first summons date is 12.11.2019/ 1,792 days

Postcode: CV4

Case 2:

Arrears amount: £38,066.50

Length of time since first referred: first summons date is 29.04.2015/ 3,450 days

Postcode: CV6

Case 3:

Arrears amount: £35,925.11

Length of time since first referred: first summons date is 04.11.2020/ 1,434 days

Postcode: CV6

3. Referral to Legal Proceedings

How many council tax arrears cases were referred to court for the issuance of liability orders in the financial years a) 2022/23 and b) 2023/24?

2022/23: 25,154

2023/24: 23,546

4. Use of Bailiffs

Please provide the number of council tax arrears cases referred to bailiffs for recovery in a) 2022/23 and b) 2023/24.

2022/23: 16,726

2023/24: 17,365

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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 icocasework@ico.org.uk.

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

Yours faithfully

Information Governance