



13 May 2019

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – 564/19

Dear Sir/Madam

Your request for information has now been considered and the information requested is provided below.

Request & Response:

For the period 2013/14 -2018/19 by year;

1) How many households were in Council Tax arrears each year?

Answer:

2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
606	680	678	686	260	608

2) How many households in Council Tax arrears became subject to a liability order?

Answer:

2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
606	680	678	686	260	608

3) How many cases of council tax arrears were referred to bailiffs?

Answer:

2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
424	345	341	259	298	384

3b) What was the value of the council tax arrears referred to bailiffs?

Answer:

2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
£284,851.20	£293,043.30	£114,568.97	£230,123.30	£183,600.92	£330,740.06

3c) What was the value of the arrears recovered?

Answer:

2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
£133,943.88	£155,559.14	£134,878.92	£128,526.18	£95,964.37	£87,578.32

3d) What were the costs of the bailiff action (including costs faced by households and costs faced by the council)?

Answer:

2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
£4,454.17	£2,988.54	£3,831.84	£6,662.08	£6,559.67	£5,144.89

We do not hold information on costs applied after the cases went to the bailiff.

4) How many cases of council tax arrears had repayment plans arranged?

Answer:

2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
					156

We can only report on this for the last financial year.

5) How many cases of council tax arrears had third party deductions applied?

Answer:

2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
					57

We can only report on this for the last financial year.

6) How many cases of council tax arrears had attachment of earnings orders applied?

Answer:

2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
					75

We can only report on this for the last financial year.

Please note:

Q4 – Q6 Due to ongoing changes in recovery stages we cannot report for prior years. The only way to obtain this would be for officer(s) familiar with the recovery process to individually check each account, therefore given the number of records involved, we believe it to be a reasonable estimate that to comply with your request would exceed the appropriate cost limit of £450. This figure is set out in Regulations and is equivalent to one person working more than 18 hours to determine whether we hold the information, and to locate and extract the information.

Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Authority is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.

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If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please contact the Data Protection Officer, Rutland County Council, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP
You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House, Water lane
Wilmslow, Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545700

Yours faithfully

FOI Administrator
Business Support Team
Rutland County Council