



## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 101562  
Date            13 October 2015

### ***Council Tax***

#### **Request and response in 'blue':**

The request is for the questions below, 1.A to 3.C, answered for the financial years 2004/05 up to and including 2014/15.

I will try and outline and explain what I am seeking for each element of the request.

1.    A - Total number of domestic council tax liability orders issued?

2004/05 - 16,945  
2005/06 - 16,218  
2006/07 - 16,058  
2007/08 - 14,950  
2008/09 - 17,313  
2009/10 - 16,292  
2010/11 - data missing from our archive  
2011/12 - 18,654  
2012/13 - 15,132  
2013/14 - 21,825  
2014/15 - 28,708

B - Number of households receiving domestic council tax liability orders?

2004/05 - 14,799  
2005/06 - 14,206  
2006/07 - 14,546  
2007/08 - 13,167  
2008/09 - 14,924  
2009/10 - 13,956  
2010/11 - data missing from our archive  
2011/12 - 15,599  
2012/13 - 12,470  
2013/14 - 18,192  
2014/15 - 23,777

C - Total sum of unpaid domestic council tax (before recovery)

This would be the total amount of council tax that the authority has pursued in the particular financial year, not regarding any successful or unsuccessful

actions to recover these sums?

We do not hold original data prior to 01/04/2012 but can provide the figures which were collectable at 01/04/12 in respect of earlier years.

2004/05 - 61,610,761.72 - as at 01/04/2012  
2005/06 - 64,642,737.97 - as at 01/04/2012  
2006/07 - 67,988,710.95 - as at 01/04/2012  
2007/08 - 71,539,517.33 - as at 01/04/2012  
2008/09 - 75,929,084.89 - as at 01/04/2012  
2009/10 - 77,102,084.31 - as at 01/04/2012  
2010/11 - 76,900,333.45 - as at 01/04/2012  
2011/12 - 77,633,219.32 - as at 01/04/2012  
2012/13 - 78,458,768.31 - as at 01/04/2012  
2013/14 - 84,072,157.82 - as at 31/03/2013  
2014/15 - 88,383,758.31 - as at 01/04/2014

D - Total sum of unpaid domestic council tax (after recovery)?

This would be the total amount of unpaid council tax after any recovery attempts. I appreciate that this may be problematic where recovery stretches beyond the financial year in question, if possible could you please calculate this sum based on when the debt itself was incurred rather than deducting from future years when recovery occurs.

Please see below the total amount of outstanding debt at the end of the financial year. However please note these may or may not have started recovery procedures.

We do not hold original data prior to 31/03/2012 but can provide the figures which were collectable at 31/03/12 in respect of earlier years.

2004/05 - 138,933.96 as at 31/03/2012  
2005/06 - 211,383.46 as at 31/03/2012  
2006/07 - 342,050.77 as at 31/03/2012  
2007/08 - 546,646.36 as at 31/03/2012  
2008/09 - 852,326.72 as at 31/03/2012  
2009/10 - 1,079,166.32 as at 31/03/2012  
2010/11 - 1,607,158.81 as at 31/03/2012  
2011/12 - 3,328,516.40 as at 31/03/2012  
2012/13 - 3,349,420.97 as at 01/04/2013  
2013/14 - 4,373,854.80 as at 01/04/2014  
2014/15 - 5,380,964.93 as at 01/04/2015

2. A - Cost for raising a summons (Paid to the Council)?

These two questions both relate to the fees charged to council taxpayers as processing fees. I understand that there are two sides to the equation, fees charged by the council and fees charged by the courts. Please could you record both where they are distinct.

Please note before 2010/11 fees were charged separately for summonses and liability orders. Also fees are charged at a lower amount where the outstanding balance is below a certain figure

2004/05 - 46.00 (0.70 fee for low balances)

2005/06 - 50.00 (0.70 fee for low balances)  
2006/07 - 68.00 (3.00 fee for low balances)  
2007/08 - 34.00 summons 37.00 Liability order (3.00 lower fee for balances under 100.00)  
2008/09 - 35.00 summons 38.00 Liability order (3.00 lower fee for balances under 100.00)  
2009/10 - 36.00 summons 40.00 Liability order (3.00 lower fee for balance under 100.00)  
2010/11 - 36.00 summons 40.00 Liability order (3.00 lower fee for balance under 100.00)  
2011/12 - 76.00 (3.00 lower fee for balance under 100.00)  
2012/13 - 76.00 (3.00 lower fee for balance under 100.00)  
2013/14 - 76.00 (3.00 lower fee for balance under 200.00)  
2014/15 - 83.00 (15.00 lower fee for balance under 250.00)

2. B - Cost for liability (Paid to the Magistrates)?

See above.

2004/05 - £0.70 paid to court for low balances £3.00 paid to court for all other summonses

2005/06 - £0.70 paid to court for low balances £3.00 paid to court for all other summonses

2006/07 - £3.00 paid to court for all summonses

2007/08 - £3.00 paid to court for all summonses

2008/09 - £3.00 paid to court for all summonses

2009/10 - £3.00 paid to court for all summonses

2010/11 - £3.00 paid to court for all summonses

2011/12 - £3.00 paid to court for all summonses

2012/13 - £3.00 paid to court for all summonses

2013/14 - £3.00 paid to court for all summonses

2014/15 - £3.00 paid to court for all summonses

3. A - Total number applications for discretionary relief received?

Although I understand that the system has changed significantly in recent years, could you please record details for both schema.

We have taken this to be a request for information about discretionary hardship relief.

Unfortunately this data is not available as we do not maintain records of applications made other than within individual account notepads.

B - Total number of households granted discretionary relief?

The total number of successful applications.

Please see details below for amounts of discretionary hardship relief granted, we migrated to a new computer system in November 2010 so unfortunately data is not available prior to this date.

2004/05 - no data available due to new computer system

2005/06 - no data available due to new computer system

2006/07 - no data available due to new computer system

2007/08 - no data available due to new computer system

2008/09 - no data available due to new computer system  
2009/10 - no data available due to new computer system  
2010/11 - no data available due to new computer system  
2011/12 - 1  
2012/13 - 1  
2013/14 - 2  
2014/15 - 1

C - Total monetary sum of discretionary relief granted?

The total value of all successful applications.

2004/05 - no data available due to new computer system  
2005/06 - no data available due to new computer system  
2006/07 - no data available due to new computer system  
2007/08 - no data available due to new computer system  
2008/09 - no data available due to new computer system  
2009/10 - no data available due to new computer system  
2010/11 - no data available due to new computer system  
2011/12 - £121.33  
2012/13 - £1,138.67  
2013/14 - £1,824.85  
2014/15 - £289.06