

FOI number: **HBC\_FOI\_2019128**  
Date FOI Received: **07/02/2019**  
Department: **Council Tax**  
Title: **Council tax increase, bills sent for recovery and number prosecuted**  
Description: **Council tax increase, bills sent for recovery and number prosecuted over the last six years (2013/14 to 2018/19).**

**Request:** *(As Redacted sent by requestor)*

For each of the last six tax years, including this current tax year, can you state the percentage increase in council tax, and how many bills (expressed as a number and as a percentage of all bills sent) were sent for recovery?

How many people were prosecuted for each of the last six tax years? Can you state this as a number and a percentage of all bills issued.

**You have since clarified what you mean by “recovery” as:**

I would like to know how many council tax bills were not paid by the recipient and were passed onto a debt collection agency in an attempt to get payment. As in the original request, can you state the amount in both numbers of bills passed to the debt collection agency and as a percentage of the total bills issued?

**Response:** *(Response as Redacted sent by service)*

We have not prosecuted anyone in the last 6 years for non-payment of council tax. The table over the page provides you with the details requested in the first half of you request.

<b>Financial year</b>	<b>Number sent to enforcement agent</b>	<b>% of total bills sent</b>
13/14	2964	7.11%
14/15	2922	6.96%
15/16	2508	5.93%
16/17	2584	6.06%
17/18	2248	5.23%
18/19	2399	5.52%

If you have any queries about the processing of your request then please do not hesitate to contact me. Further information explaining the Council's process for responding to

information requests together with a complaints/appeals procedure is available in our reception or via our website at:

<https://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/Your-Council/Official-Publications--Guides--Policies/Access-to-Information.aspx>

The Information Commissioner oversees the application of the Freedom of Information Act. You may contact the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioners Office  
Wycliffe House, Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF  
Telephone: 01625 545700  
Website: [www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk)

Please include the above reference number on all correspondence related to this request.

Thank you for your request.

Kind regards  
Information Services