

FOI number: **HBC\_FOI\_20200397**  
Date FOI Received: **6/07/2020**  
Department: **Council Tax**  
Title: **Council Tax and Liability Orders COVID-19**  
Description: **Council Tax and Liability Orders COVID-19**

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

I am writing to request information related to the collection of council tax debts via the use of Liability Orders and related enforcement action. Under the above-mentioned Act I would like you to provide me with the following information please:

For the last financial year ending April 5th 2020:

Question 1)

How many Court Summons did your organisation issue for debts relating to Council Tax payments?

Question 2)

How many Liability Orders did your organisation successfully obtain for debts relating to Council Tax payments?

Question 3)

How much total revenue did your organisation collect as a result of attachment to earnings and bailiff/sheriff enforcement action for debts relating to Council Tax payments resulting from Liability orders?

Question 4)

How much total revenue did your organisation lose as a result of non recoverable debts relating to Council Tax payments?

Question 5)

Due to the Covid-19 crisis, has your organisation suspended enforcement action for council tax debts? YES/NO

Question 6)

If YES to question 5, until what date is action currently suspended?

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

Question 1)

How many Court Summons did your organisation issue for debts relating to Council Tax payments?

4,303

Question 2)

How many Liability Orders did your organisation successfully obtain for debts relating to Council Tax payments?

3,079

Question 3)

How much total revenue did your organisation collect as a result of attachment to earnings and bailiff/sheriff enforcement action for debts relating to Council Tax payments resulting from Liability orders?

£319,206.68

Question 4)

How much total revenue did your organisation lose as a result of non recoverable debts relating to Council Tax payments?

Bad debt provision was £2,465,849.29

Question 5)

Due to the Covid-19 crisis, has your organisation suspended enforcement action for council tax debts? YES/NO

Yes

Question 6)

If YES to question 5, until what date is action currently suspended?

We started again in August

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

**Information Services**

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