



Further to your information request FOI/EIR 23/24-431, please find your question and our response below.

Request:

The figures for each of the following financial years 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2022-23, 2023-24 (to current date)

- 1) What is the total value of unpaid council tax debt owed to the council at the end of each financial year, To current date for 2023-24?
- 2) What is the total value of unpaid council tax debt owed to the council by a social housing provider at the end of each financial year, To current date for 2023-24?
- 3) Please list the total value of unpaid council tax debt owed to the council by each individual social housing provider at the end of each financial year to current date for 2023-24.
- 4) For each year what was the total value of social housing provider council tax debt accrued in the 12-month period, To current date for 2023-24?
- 5) What is the council policy around court summons and bailiff action for social housing providers with outstanding debt?
- 6) What is the council policy around issuing class B exemption. Does the council automatically award a social housing provider, does the social housing provider have to request once per property or every account change?

Response:

1)
2017-2018 - £177766.68
2018-2019 - £201952.20
2019-2020 - £267963.66
2020-2021 - £332877.81
2021-2022 - £504625.48
2022-2023 - £797521.49
2023-2024 - £3964093.03

2)
2022-2023 - £1071.74
2023-2024 - £15829.55

3)
2022-2023 SANCTUARY HOUSING - £1071.74

2023-2024 AXIOM HOUSING ASSOCIATION LTD - £1033.81
2023-2024 CAMBRIDGE HOUSING SOCIETY - £580.35
2023-2024 CLARION HOUSING GROUP - £227.44
2023-2024 FLAGSHIP HOUSING GROUP LTD - £82.67
2023-2024 SANCTUARY HEReward - £430.27
2023-2024 SANCTUARY HOUSING ASSOCIATION - £5881.57
2023-2024 SANCTUARY HOUSING GROUP - £3104.40
2023-2024 SANCTUARY HOUSING - £4489.04

4)
Our system provider provided the following response: 'Unfortunately, I was not able to answer question 4. The reason for this is that, in order to try and filter out any accounts which refer to a tenant of the property, I could only realistically use the honorific in their name (Mr, Mrs, etc). Where this does not exist, the filter fails (for example, where a non-charitable business is the Council Taxpayer). As a result of this, with regard to question 4, because it is asking for the total amount charged, this expands the dataset to a point beyond which a meaningful answer can be determined.

5) For any debt that arises after an Exempt B we would pursue normal recovery action.

6) All known housing associations will have an indicator on so that when they become liable for Council Tax in between tenants they will automatically receive an exemption B.

This concludes your request FOI/EIR 23/24-431.

If information has been refused, please treat this as a Refusal Notice for the purposes of the Act.

If you disagree with our decision or are otherwise unhappy with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you may approach foi@eastcambs.gov.uk and request a review. A request for review must be made in no more than 40 working days from the date of this email.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under s50 of the Freedom of Information Act to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.