



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

*Department for Communities and Local
Government*
Eland House - London

Ms Becky Saunder
via whatdotheyknow.com

Tel: [Enter phone number]
Fax: 020 7035 0018
E-Mail:
marie.hazzard@communities.gsi.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/dclg

Our Ref: 727120
Your Ref:

Date: **16 March 2015**

Dear Ms Saunder,

Thank you for your email of 2 February 2015 regarding local authority imposed court costs. I have been asked to reply.

I note from your email that you would like the Department to provide a legal analysis of the powers used to make regulations 34(5) and 34(8) of the Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) Regulations 1992, regarding local authority court costs.

As previously highlighted in Richard McDonagh's letter to you of 23 December, the administration of council tax is a matter for local authorities, not central government.

Local authorities must be satisfied that what they propose is within their powers under the 1992 council tax regulations and the 1992 Local Government Finance Act. It is not the role of this Department to interpret legislation, as this is ultimately up to the courts.

Yours sincerely,

Marie Hazzard
marie.hazzard@communities.gsi.gov.uk