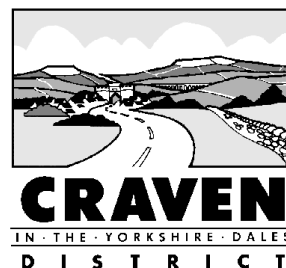


1 Belle Vue Square
Broughton Road
SKIPTON
North Yorkshire
BD23 1FJ



Bart Joseph
[request-390028-
ad268ea2@whatdotheyknow.c
om](mailto:request-390028-ad268ea2@whatdotheyknow.com)

From: Freedom of Information Officer
Telephone 01756700600
Email: accesstoinfo@cravendc.gov.uk
Our reference: Fol 2017/948
22 February 2017

Dear Bart Joseph,

Further to your request for information received on 16 February 2017, we have already explained that this request is being dealt with in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act ('the Act'). You asked:

1. *Are you increasing Council Tax?*
2. *If so please release all records related to this including, but not limited to: internal memos, emails, external letters, minutes, policies, audio recordings, video recordings...*
3. *What recorded information do you have to prove that under Common Law (which IS the law of the land), that any man or woman is obliged to pay Council Tax? I am not interested in statutes and acts etc as they only take force when consent is given and besides the Council Tax act it seems only applies to consenting businesses anyway. Seems to me you are sort of a subscription service.*
4. *It also seems to me that you are scaling back services in recent years. For example the bins were once done weekly. Please can you release your justification for the increase (if there is one)?*

Council's response

With regards to questions 1, 2, and 4, I can confirm that the Council holds the information you are seeking. However, Section 22 of the Act exempts this information from disclosure. This is because the information is intended for publication at a future date.

This exemption requires the public interest for and against disclosure to be weighed in the balance. There is a public interest in information being released as soon as possible. However, I am satisfied that there is a strong public interest in permitting public authorities to publish information in a manner and form and at a time of their own choosing. It is a part of the effective conduct of public affairs that the general publication of information is a conveniently planned and managed activity within the reasonable control of public authorities, and I am satisfied that in the instance the Council is reasonably entitled to make its own arrangements to do so.



Paul Shevlin, Chief Executive
Calls may be recorded for training and monitoring purposes
For general enquiries telephone 01756 700600
www.cravendc.gov.uk



If you would like this information in a way which is better for you, please telephone 01756 700600.

With regards to question 3, Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act allows us to direct you to information which is already reasonably accessible to you, as it is already in the public domain. The information that you requested is available in the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended.

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by emailing accesstoinfo@cravendc.gov.uk or by writing to the Freedom of Information Officer, Craven District Council, Belle Vue Square, Broughton Road, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 1FJ. Any request for a review should be submitted within two months of the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner's Office can be contacted at the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Website: <https://ico.org.uk/>

Yours sincerely,
Sent by email

Freedom of Information Officer
Craven District Council