

Mr Grey
What do they know.com

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Contact: Paul Burns
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Our reference: FOI/6296/16092011
Date: 22 October 2011

Dear Mr Grey,

Freedom of Information Request: Council Tax summonses and liability orders

Please accept my apologies regarding the delay in responding to your follow-up enquiry.

We did not combine the figures as explained in my original response (dated 7 October 2011) as such a split was not practical to identify as this information is not required within the Service and therefore does not exist.

To obtain this information would require new reports to be specified, developed, tested, run and checked for each of the years in question, further work would then also need to be carried out to determine how to correctly revise the figures to reflect where costs are cancelled, as very often the cancellation is a code which does not specifically relate to either the summons production costs, or the liability hearing costs. We estimate that this would exceed the appropriate limit of £450. This figure represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours to gather the information you require. Under Section 12 (appropriate limit and fees) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Council is not obliged to comply with your request. Any resultant figures would also still require some degree of assumptions to be made which would potentially question the true accuracy of the information requested.

Based on the current split of costs £70.00 for the production of the summons and £20.00 for the hearing and the respective volumes I would estimate somewhere around 20% of the total values supplied on the request would relate to the liability order hearing costs.

I trust my reply serves to assist in your enquiry. If you have any queries about this letter, please feel free to contact me.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to:

Freepost RLZR-ELTX-RUEH
Leeds City Council
PO Box 657
LS1 9BS

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act for a decision. Generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by Leeds City Council.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Paul Burns

Freedom of Information & Data Protection Officer