

Ms. Joanna Morris
By email: request-567966-
a18c97f0@whatdotheyknow.com

Your Ref:
Our Ref: FOI IAT 18220
Please ask for: Christine Dallow
Direct Line / Extension: 01432 260535
E-mail: accesstoinformation@herefordshire.gov.uk

15th May 2019

Dear Madam,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST FOI IAT 18220

Further to previous correspondence, your request for information has now been considered and the council's response is set out below:

Please note that there is precedent for councillors to be named in relation to this issue - the High Court ruled in March 2015 that they should not have their identities protected when it comes to non-payment of council tax.

I'd like to know the following:

- 1. How many unpaid council tax reminders were sent to councillors elected in your authority between 2015/16 and 2017/18? Please break down by financial year?**

- A) Please see below:
2015-16 - 7
2016-17 - 4
2017-18 – 4

- 2. How many councillors were summonsed to court or given summary warrants in the same period? Again, please break down by financial year.**

- A) Please see below:
2015-16 - 3
2016-17 - 2
2017-18 – 1

3a. How many reminders were issued to the councillors named? Please break down by year.

3b. For each instance, please provide the name of each councillor, the party they represent or represented at the time and the amount of council tax owed according to sums requested in the letter. Please also provide the amount of council tax that remains outstanding.

3c. Please also state for each councillor, whether they were barred from voting on the council's budget as a result of their council tax arrears and whether any summons received resulted in a court hearing going ahead.

I'd be grateful if you could provide the information for questions 1 and 2 as totals for your authority and present the rest of the information within a spreadsheet with the following columns:

Financial Year - Authority Name - Councillor Name - Party - No of Reminders - No of Summons - Amount Owed According to Reminders - Court Hearing Y/N - Outcome of Hearing - Banned from Voting Y/N - Current Sum Outstanding

A) Please see the attached.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, further information regarding our review procedure is available in the 'Internal Review Procedure for EIR and FOI requests' which is published on Herefordshire Council's website via the following link:

https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/downloads/file/5520/internal_review_procedure_for_foi_and_eir_requests

Further information is also available from the Information Commissioner at:
Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF
Telephone: 01625 545 745 www.ico.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

Christine Dallow

CHRISTINE DALLOW

INFORMATION ACCESS OFFICER