



Gweinyddiaeth
Cyfiawnder

Ministry
of Justice

M Bowen
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19 Ionawr 2018

Disclosure Team
Ministry of Justice
102 Petty France
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19 January 2018

Dear M Bowen,

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request – 17129006

Thank you for your request dated 29 December 2017 in which you asked for the following information from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ):

I made a reasonable request which HMCTS declines to answer. I reasonably asked in Question 2. What is the total amount of Complaints recorded by Llanelli Magistrates Court to be successful in the favour of Carmarthenshire County Council on 09/10/2017? What is confusing it seems that Carmarthenshire County Council are writing their own summonses under the Courts name. The masquerading court summons states that the court has received a complaint when seemingly they have not. Perhaps if it was worded differently how many summonses were recorded by Llanelli Magistrates Court to be successful in the favour of Carmarthenshire County Council on 09/10/2017? Your confusion raises an additional question - Please cite me the Law that allows a Local Authority to write their own Summonses?

Your request has been handled under the FOIA.

I can confirm that the MoJ holds some of the information that you have requested and I have provided it below:

On 09/10/2017 there were 321 accounts on the Council Tax list at Llanelli Magistrates' Court.

205 Liability orders were granted
86 applications were withdrawn
27 paid
3 cases were adjourned

In respect of your second question, there are some circumstances when a prosecuting authority can draft summons for issue by the court. In such cases, the summons is drafted by the authority in accordance with instructions provided by the court. It is then uploaded to the court IT system where, provided it is correctly drafted, it is issued with a case number and also allocated a court hearing date.

To allow me to assist in answering your specific question, please can you provide a copy of the summons you regard as being written by the local authority? Thank you.

Appeal Rights

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to request an internal review by responding in writing to one of the addresses below within two months of the date of this response.

data.access@justice.gsi.gov.uk

Disclosure Team, Ministry of Justice, 10.38, 102 Petty France, London, SW1H 9AJ

You do have the right to ask the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to investigate any aspect of your complaint. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect internal complaints procedures to have been exhausted before beginning their investigation.

Yours sincerely

Rheolwr Busnes GLITEM Cymru
Business Support Manager HMCTS Wales