FOI request - Reference: FOI-423626576 Title: Council Tax Rebate

Your request:
Dear Milton Keynes Council,
I wish to request the following information under the FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000.
1) Since applying for a rebate under the £150 Energy Rebate Payment Scheme, I have been contacted by a company known as ASCENDANT SOLUTIONS LIMITED that also trades under GrantApproval.co.uk and Apply4.Online, who claim to be handling requests on behalf of Milton Keynes Council and others nationwide. Can you verify this is accurate?
2) Can you advise as to how much is being paid to ASCENDANT SOLUTIONS LIMITED and its other companies named above in relation to the services it is providing under the £150 Energy Rebate Payment Scheme?
3) Can you please tell me the extent of the work ASCENDANT SOLUTIONS LIMITED and its companies are carrying out on behalf of the Council under the £150 Energy Rebate Payment Scheme?
4) Can you please advise me as to why the Council has deemed it necessary to hire an external contractor to undertake work for the £150 Energy Rebate Scheme when it would have been simpler and cheaper for Council Taxpayers to have deducted the rebate at source?
I trust that you will be able to furnish me with the information I have requested in a timely and efficient manner.
Yours faithfully,
Robert Bluffield
Please use this email address for all replies to this request:
request-861493-12a12a43@whatdotheyknow.com
Date of request: 20/05/2022
Any attached files: