



My Ref: FOI/ 5301
Enquiries to: Information Requests
E-Mail: informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk

Dear Requester,

Re: Request for Information – Freedom of Information Act 2000

I wish to confirm that the council has completed its search for the information which you requested.

The information requested and our findings are as follows: -

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide the following information relating to Council Tax liabilities for the financial year 2024/25.

For clarity: this request refers to all Council Tax accounts where liability fell within the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025, regardless of when the bill was issued.

Please include all accounts where liability covered the whole financial year or any part of the financial year, including part-year tenancies and mid-year changes of liability.

1. Council Tax enforcement actions

a. Number of summonses issued for non-payment of council tax

13,246

b. Number of Liability Orders granted by magistrates for non-payment of council tax

10,753

c. Number of cases referred to enforcement agents (bailiffs)

6,363 first placement cases

1,443 second placement cases

d. Number of enforcement letters issued by enforcement agents on behalf of the council

Unable to provide this information as the data is not readily available to the enforcement agent companies and would exceed the appropriate cost limit.

e. Number of enforcement visits made by enforcement agents on behalf of the council

Unable to provide this information as the data is not readily available to the enforcement agent companies and would exceed the appropriate cost limit.

2. Fees and charges

a. The summons fee charged

£28.00

b. The Liability Order fee charged

£52.00

c. A breakdown of how these fees are calculated or determined

Schedule of Taxation Costs 2024/25

Associated Cost of:

Production and issue of summons: (Inclusive of court fee)	£28.00
Application for the Liability Order:	£52.00
Total Cost:	£80.00*

* The calculation of costs includes but is not limited to a percentage of the costs incurred for: employee costs, office equipment, postage costs, computer hardware & software, the court fee and stationery and printing.

These costs are reviewed annually and benchmarked against other local authorities to ensure that they are reasonable.

3. Enforcement agent firms used

a. The names of all enforcement agent companies used by the council for council tax collection, recovery, and enforcement during 2024/25

Marston Holdings
Jacobs Enforcement
CDER Group
Newlyn Plc

(Please note: I am requesting only the names of the enforcement firms, not contract values or commercially sensitive information.)

4. Households in receipt of Council Tax Reduction (CTR)

a. Number of cases referred to enforcement agents where the household was in receipt of CTR

We do not hold this data.

b. Number of Liability Orders granted where the household was in receipt of CTR

We do not hold this data

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c. For Liability Orders involving households on CTR, a split by:

Working-age households

Pension-age households

We do not hold this data.

5. Attachment of Benefits and Attachment of Earnings

a. Number of Attachment of Benefits (AoB) requests sent to DWP (e.g., UC or legacy benefits)

3,449

b. Total value of the debt included in AoB requests (regardless of deductions taken)

£791,609

c. Number of Attachment of Earnings Orders (AoEOs) issued

554

d. Total value of the debt included in AoEOs

£444,421

e. Number of households subject to AoEOs who were in receipt of CTR

We do not hold this data.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the way the Directorate has handled your request, you may ask for an internal review. Please clearly mark your correspondence 'Complaint' and address it to:

Barnsley MBC
Information Requests Team
PO Box 634
Barnsley
S70 9GG
email: informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: -

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PO Box 634, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 9GG

Customer Services Team
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Email: <http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints>

Kind regards,

Information Requests Team, Barnsley MBC

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