



Information Governance

Coventry City Council
PO Box 15
Council House
Coventry
CV1 5RR

www.coventry.gov.uk

Please contact Information Governance
Direct line 024 7683 3323
infogov@coventry.gov.uk

29 March 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: REQ01905**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Use of Bailiffs.

1. How many households have been in arrears for a) Rent and b) Council Tax in your area in each of the last four calendar years, including the 10 months to October 2016 (or the nearest set of figures available)?

a) The Council does not have housing stock and are therefore advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act.

b) For this purpose we have reported the number of reminder notices issued for missed/late council tax payments in the relevant year:

13-14	29417
14-15	29369
15-16	29376
16 (as of 1/11/16)	33507

2. How many times has the council engaged bailiffs a) in response to a household falling into arrears on their a) rent b) Council Tax or c) any other circumstances in which a household owes money to the council in each of the last four calendar years, including the 10 months to October 2016 (or the nearest set of figures available)?

a)

The Council does not have housing stock and are therefore advising you as per Section 1(1) of the Act.

b)

13-14	12223
14-15	13832
15-16	16385
16 (as of 1/11/16)	14483

c)

Information from Council Tax:

13-14	3429
14-15	1971
15-16	449
16 (as of 1/11/16)	1067

Information from Parking Services:

13-14	4256
14-15	7248
15-16	8270
As of Oct 16	6957

N.B: This is for outstanding penalty charges.

3. How much money has the Council spent on bailiff services in in each of the last four calendar years, including the 10 months to October 2016 (or the nearest set of figures available)?

The following represents total payments by the Council (net of VAT payments) to Enforcement Agent companies - formerly bailiffs. The payments do not necessarily represent a cost to the Council - they may be the payment of enforcement agent fees which have been paid directly to the Council.

The Council is unable to separate out these amounts. Historically most of the charges applied by Enforcement Agents have been recovered from the debtor. At present neither Enforcement Agents engaged by the Council charge the Council for any services provided.

2013	£ 10,884
2014	£ 54,034
2015	£ 25,789
2016 (as of 1/11/16)	£ 6,653

Information from parking services:

13-14	Nil
14-15	£36,239.31
15-16	£76,475.52
1/4/16 to 31/10/16	£46,562.65

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If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email casework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

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