

#### Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam.

#### Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: REQ07712

Thank you for your request for information relating to Council Tax arrears, Homelessness, Commercial Rents.

You have requested the following information:

### Council tax

If the Council does not have data for households for questions 1-3, please provide data for individuals.

Questions 1-3 refer to arrears that have accumulated with regard to 2020/21 Council Tax bills.

1. How many households have been issued with liability orders in relation to Council Tax arrears from the 2020/21 financial year?

0.

2. How many households have been referred to bailiffs in relation to Council Tax arrears from the 2020/21 financial year?

0.

3. For how many households has the council requested an attachment to benefits in relation to Council Tax arrears from the 2020/21 financial year?

0.

## Homelessness assistance

4. Since 1st April 2020, how many people have approached the Council for help with homelessness or the threat of homelessness under the Homelessness Reduction Act?

2317 individual households approached the Council for assistance between 1<sup>st</sup> April and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020. Some households approached for assistance more than once during this time, so there were a total of 2632 approaches.

# 5. Please provide the question 4 figure broken down by the month in which the approach for help was received, for each month from April to November (if available) inclusive.

April	291
Мау	310
June	368
July	408
August	431
September	428
October	400

Note - this shows the number of approaches in each month. As explained in the answer to Q4, this includes some households who approached the service more than once.

## 6. Of the people who approached the Council since 1st April 2020 for help with homelessness or the threat of homelessness under the Homelessness Reduction Act (i.e. the question 4 figure), how many have been assessed by the Council as being owed the prevention duty?

Of the households that approached the Council between 1<sup>st</sup>April and 31<sup>st</sup> October, 408 were assessed as being owed the Prevention Duty.

## 7. Of the people who approached the Council since 1st April 2020 for help with homelessness or the threat of homelessness under the Homelessness Reduction Act (i.e. the question 4 figure), how many have been assessed by the Council as being owed the relief duty?

Of the households that approached the Council between 1<sup>st</sup>April and 31<sup>st</sup> October, 1043 were assessed as being owed the Relief Duty.

# 8. Of the people who approached the Council since 1st April 2020 for help with

## homelessness or the threat of homelessness under the Homelessness Reduction Act (i.e. the question 4 figure), how many have been assessed by the Council as being owed the main housing duty?

Of the households that approached the Council between 1<sup>st</sup>April and 31<sup>st</sup> October, 206 have been assessed as being owed the Main Housing Duty. However, please note that due to the timescales involved, many of those that have approached during this period will not yet have reached the point of a Main Housing Duty decision.

9. How many homeless people were supported into accommodation under the 'Everyone In' scheme in March? This question refers to the initial round of immediate support back in March, rather than any longer term assessment and support that may have occurred in subsequent months.

88 people were accommodated under the initial round of 'Everyone In' support provided in March 2020.

#### **Commercial rents**

10. How many commercial property tenants does the Council have (in the Council's role as landlord)?

1620 leases.

11. Of the tenants referred to in question 10, how many are at least a month (or four weeks) in arrears on rent?

285.

12. Of the tenants referred to in question 10, how many are at least three months (or 12 weeks) in arrears on rent?

332.

13. What is the total amount of commercial property rent arrears that has accumulated to date during 2020/21 (where the Council is the landlord)?

£2,905,320.

14. Please provide any report or analysis prepared by or for the Council since March on the property values of the Council's commercial property portfolio, particularly in terms of the impact of Covid and related economic effects.

None prepared.

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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: <u>infogov@coventry.gov.uk</u>

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 <u>casework@ico.org.uk</u>.

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

Yours faithfully

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