

**FOI Reference Number:** FOI/348/1819

**Date:** 26/10/2018

**Request:**

Dear FOI officer,

I write to make a freedom of information request concerning council tax.

1. Please supply a copy of your council's procedure for dealing with unpaid council tax, including a timeline of when bailiffs are involved and bankruptcy charges filed.

2. For each of the past five financial years and the year to date to 15.10.2018, please provide:

The number of individuals owing outstanding council tax in the following categories of arrears: £0-5k, £5k-10k, £10-15k, etc in 5k intervals up to £50k+?

3. Please state:

- a) Total spend on bailiff recovery services
- b) Total recovered council tax by bailiff providers

in each of the last five financial years, and the current financial year to 15.10.18

4. Please provide a list of all bailiff companies used by your council during the period specified above.

5. Please state:

- a) the number of individuals your council has brought bankruptcy charges against in each of the last five financial years, and the current financial year to 15.10.18.
- b) Please state how many of these bankruptcy charges that were successful
- c) Please provide a list of all administration companies used by your council for the specified period
- d) Please state the total spend by your council on administration companies for the specified period.
- e) Please state the total cost recovered following a successful bankruptcy charge.

I would like to receive the information electronically. If you have previously released information relevant to my request, please include it in your correspondence to me.

**Response:**

Thank you for your information request which Mid and East Antrim Borough Council received on 24/10/2018.

Please find below Mid and East Antrim Borough Council's response to the information you requested in relation to bailiffs and bankruptcy.

*Please note that in Northern Ireland district councils are not responsible for the provision of tax. Please contact Land and Property Services who should be able to help you with your request.*

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of part of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Chief Executive at the Braid Ballymena Town Hall, 1-29 Bridge Street, Ballymena, BT43 5EJ.

Please remember to quote the reference number FOI/348/1819 in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of an internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Please be advised that Mid and East Antrim Borough Council may release the response to this information request into the public domain via our website at <https://www.midandeantrim.gov.uk/>.

If we publish our response to your request, your personal data will be removed to protect your privacy.