

15 August 2019
Our ref: 5479028

Thank you for your request received on 19 July 2019, for the following information:

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to request the following information in accordance with FOI laws:

1) How many court summons and liability orders have been issued by your council for unpaid council tax in the year

- a) 2016**
- b) 2017**
- c) 2018**
- d) 2019 (so far)?**

If your council is covering several councils/districts, please answer for all of them.

2) How many of these were successful in

- a) 2016**
- b) 2017**
- c) 2018**
- d) 2019?**

3) How many summons and liability orders were issued for late council tax payments of

- a) under £50**
 - aa) in 2016**
 - bb) in 2017**
 - cc) in 2018**
 - dd) in 2019**

- b) under £30**
 - aa) in 2016**
 - bb) in 2017**
 - cc) in 2018**
 - dd) in 2019?**

- c) under £10**
 - aa) in 2016**
 - bb) in 2017**
 - cc) in 2018**
 - dd) in 2019?**

4) What was the overall cost in £ to your council for all unsuccessful summons and liability orders made in

- a) 2016
- b) 2017
- c) 2018
- d) 2019 (so far)?

Note, do not include working hours/resources etc in these costs, by costs I refer solely to fees directly arising from the use of the public courts system. If your council is covering several councils/districts, please answer for all of them.

I look forward to hearing your response!

Yours faithfully,

We have processed this request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Response

The council holds the information requested and the answers to your questions are below

I would like to request the following information in accordance with FOI laws:

1) How many court summons and liability orders have been issued by your council for unpaid council tax in the year

- a) 2016
- b) 2017
- c) 2018
- d) 2019 (so far)?

If your council is covering several councils/districts, please answer for all of them.

Answer:

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Summons issued	22,848	23,715	23,160	10,146
Liability Orders	18,787	19,002	19,442	8,931

2) How many of these were successful in

- a) 2016
- b) 2017
- c) 2018
- d) 2019?

Answer:

There is no specific information available to this question due to the nature of how the legislated recovery cycle works and the numbers of multi-year summons. Our reporting system is currently unable to extract this type of information.

3) How many summons and liability orders were issued for late council tax payments of

- a) under £50

aa) in 2016
bb) in 2017
cc) in 2018
dd) in 2019

	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20
Summons	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Liability Orders	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

b) under £30
aa) in 2016
bb) in 2017
cc) in 2018
dd) in 2019?

	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20
Summons	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Liability	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

c) under £10
aa) in 2016
bb) in 2017
cc) in 2018
dd) in 2019?

	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20
Summons	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Liability	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

4) What was the overall cost in £ to your council for all unsuccessful summons and liability orders made in

a) 2016
b) 2017
c) 2018
d) 2019 (so far)?

Note, do not include working hours/resources etc in these costs, by costs I refer solely to fees directly arising from the use of the public courts system. If your council is covering several councils/districts, please answer for all of them.

Answer:

Our reporting system is currently unable to extract this type of information. Information not held in format requested.

Further information

If you are interested in the data that the council holds you may wish to visit Open Barnet, the council's data portal. This brings together all our published datasets and other information of interest on one searchable database for anyone, anywhere to access. <http://open.barnet.gov.uk/>

Advice and Assistance : Direct Marketing

If you are a company that intends to use the names and contact details of council officers (or other officers) provided in this response for direct marketing, you need to be registered with the Information Commissioner to process personal data for this purpose. You must also check that the individual (whom you wish to contact for direct marketing purposes) is not registered with one of the Preference Services to prevent Direct Marketing. If they are you must adhere to this preference.

You must also ensure you comply with the Privacy Electronic and Communications Regulations (PECR). For more information follow this Link www.ico.org.uk

For the avoidance of doubt the provision of council (and other) officer names and contact details under FOI does not give consent to receive direct marketing via any media and expressly does not constitute a 'soft opt-in' under PECR.

Your rights

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review within the next 40 working days by writing to the Information Management Team at: foi@barnet.gov.uk. Or by post to Information Management Team (FOI) London Borough of Barnet, 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW

If, having exhausted our review procedure, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you will have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF (telephone: 0303 123 1113; website www.ico.org.uk). There is no charge for making an appeal.