CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL

## **Response to Request for Information**

Reference FOI 000715 Date 20 December 2016

## **Council Tax**

## **Request:**

Under the Freedom of Information Act can I ask for the following information:

- In the last five financial years how much in Council Tax was not collected by your authority?
  - a) I would like the data year by year?
  - b) How many households did this involve year on year?

We have interpreted your request to mean the amounts outstanding at the end of each relevant year however would like to point out that this does not exclusively represent arrears because some accounts may have only just been billed as occupancy and liability changes on a daily basis. The amount outstanding at the end of each relevant year is therefore a snapshot and recovery continues over subsequent years. To illustrate this we have additionally included the amounts outstanding as at 31/12/2016.

| Year    | Amount outstanding (at end of relevant year) | Amount outstanding (at 31/12/2016) | Number of accounts<br>with a balance<br>outstanding<br>(at end of relevant<br>year) |
|---------|--|------------------------------------|---|
| 2011/12 | £3,053,807.16                                | £553,309.47                        | 12,014  |
| 2012/13 | £3,147,689.84                                | £692,462.68                        | 11,846  |
| 2013/14 | £4,112,744.02                                | £1,201,530.52                      | 18,897  |
| 2014/15 | £5,021,278.42                                | £1,921,356.43                      | 24,083  |
| 2015/16 | £6,166,263.06                                | £3,941,037.65                      | 24,475  |

- In the last five financial years how much in Business Rates was not collected by your authority?
  - a) I would like the data year by year?
  - b) How many business did this involve year on year?

| Year    | Amount outstanding (at end of relevant year) | Amount outstanding (at 31/12/2016) | Number of accounts<br>with a balance<br>outstanding<br>(at end of relevant<br>year) |  |
|---------|--|------------------------------------|---|--|
| 2011/12 | £2,884,402.00                                | £297,436.77                        | 983   |  |
| 2012/13 | £3,183,207.85                                | £635,794.44                        | 1,002   |  |
| 2013/14 | £3,707,341.47                                | £963,146.92                        | 1,066   |  |
| 2014/15 | £2,989,319.48                                | £1,213,646.27                      | 954   |  |
| 2015/16 | £2,736,809.34                                | £2,062,992.60                      | 888   |  |

• In the last five years how much have you put Council Tax up by? In total over that period. Ideally I'd like that as a percentage and the increase in £ on a Band D property?

| Billing Year     | 2016/17   | 2015/16   | 2014/15   | 2013/14   | 2012/13   | 2011/12   |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Valuation Band D | £1,591.87 | £1,531.13 | £1,501.26 | £1,471.97 | £1,464.00 | £1,464.00 |
| Increase         | £60.74    | £29.87    | £29.29    | £7.97     | £0.00     | £0.00     |
|                  | 3.99%     | 1.99%     | 1.99%     | 0.54%     | 0.00%     | 0.00%     |