

CITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
COUNCIL

## Response to Request for Information

Reference      FOI 002357  
Date            31 May 2018

### ***Registered Voters and Council Tax Arrears***

#### **Request:**

#### Registered voters

1. The current number of registered voters (for general election purposes) in the local authority area, broken down by parliamentary constituency.

#### **May 2017**

Wolverhampton North East 60,291

Wolverhampton South East 52, 387 excluding Coseley east ward- which we take in from Dudley borough

Wolverhampton South West 58,994

2. The number of registered voters (for general election purposes) in the local authority area as of 8th June 2017 (i.e. as at the last general election), broken down by parliamentary constituency.

#### **June 2018**

Wolverhampton North East 60,899

Wolverhampton South East 52,134 excluding Coseley east ward- which we take in from Dudley borough

Wolverhampton South West 59,356

Please note - where a constituency area cuts across more than one local authority, the council may provide data that just covers voters in the local authority area, or data for the entire constituency even when it overlaps with other local authority areas. However, please state explicitly which approach the council has adopted in responding to the request.

#### Council tax arrears

3. How many households received working age Council Tax Support during each financial year from 2013/14 to 2017/18?  
[Please see below.](#)
4. For each year referred to in question 3, how many court summonses for non-payment of council tax were issued?  
[Please see below.](#)

5. For each year referred to in question 3, how many of those summonses (as per question 4) were issued to households in receipt of Council Tax Support?  
Please see below.
6. For each year referred to in question 3, how many of those summonsed who were in receipt of Council Tax Support were charged court costs, and what was the standard rate of costs imposed in each year?  
In response to question 6, please see table below. Please note that costs are added to all accounts at the time the summons is issued. Details of the rates of court costs are in the table below.

Rates of Court Costs	Level of outstanding debt	Court Costs	Level of outstanding debt	Court Costs
2013-2014	Below £200	£3	£200 & above	£76
2014-2015	Below £200	£15	£200 & above	£83
2015-2016	Below £200	£15	£200 & above	£85
2016-2017	Below £250	£15	£250 & above	£85
2017-2018	Below £250	£18	£250 & above	£77

7. For each year referred to in question 3, how many households in receipt of Council Tax Support had a liability order issued against them for non-payment of council tax?  
Please see below.

In response to questions 3, 4, 5 and 7, please see table provided on page 3.

Please note the figures provided in the table give the number of households which were in receipt of Council Tax Reduction at some point in a year and were also subject to the recovery of an outstanding debt in that year. However, the debt recovery taken in that year does not necessarily relate to a debt incurred in the same year or at a time that they were in receipt of Council Tax Support.

	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
3. Total number of CTR claims (working age only)	27,599	25,975	24,084	22,497	21,314
4. Total number of summonses issued in the year	19,824	23,957	18,695	20,663	20,632
5. Households in receipt of CTR issued with a summons	12,303	16,117	11,449	11,763	11,668
7. Households in receipt of CTR issued with a liability order	9,366	11,086	9,822	8,985	9,048

8. With reference to the figures for question 7, how many of those Council Tax Support claimants with a liability order issued against them:

a) Had deduction from benefits requested (2017/18 only)?  
In 2017-18 we requested 3,434 attachments to benefit

b) Had enforcement agents (i.e. bailiffs) engaged to recover the debt (all financial years referred to in question 3, broken down by year)?

Year	Number of Households in receipt of CTR and had an outstanding Council Tax debt referred to Bailiff
2013-2014	1,382
2014-2015	2,302
2015-2016	2,313
2016-2017	1,969
2017-2018	3,090