

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR)
Decision notice**

Date: 25 April 2024

Public Authority: Cambridge City Council
Address: The Guildhall
Cambridge
CB2 3QJ

Decision (including any steps ordered)

1. The complainant has made various requests for information. Cambridge City Council ("the Council") refused to comply with the requests under section 14(1) (vexatious requests) of FOIA.
2. The Commissioner's decision is that the Council was entitled to apply section 14(1) of FOIA, and that where the requests seek environmental information, the Council is entitled to rely upon regulation 12(4)(b) (manifestly unreasonable requests) of the EIR.
3. The Commissioner does not require further steps.

Request and response

4. On 3 August 2023, the complainant wrote to the Council and made various requests for information. The full text of these requests is provided in Annex A.
5. The Council responded on 18 August 2023. It gave the requests the reference of 13591. It stated that the requests were refused as vexatious under section 14(1) of FOIA, and provided wider advice and

assistance about the substantive matter, including where specific public information could be found.

6. On 12 September 2023, the complainant wrote to the Council and requested an internal review.
7. The Council did not provide an internal review.

Reasons for decision

Section 14(1) of the FOIA – Vexatious requests Regulation 12(4)(b) of the EIR - Manifestly unreasonable requests

8. Section 14(1) of FOIA states that:

Section 1(1) does not oblige a public authority to comply with a request for information if the request is vexatious.
9. Regulation 12(4)(b) of the EIR states that:

For the purposes of paragraph (1)(a), a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that-
(b) the request for information is manifestly unreasonable;
10. The Commissioner recognises that, on occasion, there is no material difference between a request that is vexatious under section 14(1) of FOIA and a request that is manifestly unreasonable on vexatious grounds under regulation 12(4)(b) of the EIR. The Commissioner has therefore considered the extent to which the requests could be considered vexatious.
11. The Commissioner has published guidance on vexatious requests¹. As discussed in the Commissioner's guidance, the relevant consideration is whether the request itself is vexatious, rather than the individual submitting it. Sometimes, it will be obvious when requests are vexatious, but sometimes it may not. In such cases, it should be considered whether the request would be likely to cause a disproportionate or unjustified level of disruption, irritation, or distress to the public authority. This negative impact must then be considered against the purpose and public value of the request. A public authority

¹ <https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guidance-index/freedom-of-information-and-environmental-information-regulations/dealing-with-vexatious-requests-section-14/>

can also consider the context of the request and the history of its relationship with the requester when this is relevant.

12. While section 14(1) of FOIA effectively removes the duty to comply with a request, regulation 12(4)(b) of the EIR only provides an exception. As such the EIR explicitly requires a public authority to apply a public interest test (in accordance with regulation 12(1)(b)) before deciding whether to maintain the exception. The Commissioner accepts that public interest factors, such as proportionality and the value of the request, will have already been considered by a public authority in deciding whether to engage the exception, and that a public authority is likely to be able to “carry through” the relevant considerations into the public interest test. However, regulation 12(2) of the EIR specifically states that a public authority must apply a presumption in favour of disclosure. In effect, this means that the exception can only be maintained if the public interest in refusing the request outweighs the public interest in responding.
13. In this case, the Council has explained to the Commissioner that it considers the requests intrinsically relate to the complainant’s dissatisfaction about council tax, and their liability to pay this.
14. The Council has provided the Commissioner with a copy of its response to an earlier request by the complainant (Council reference 11010), in which it provided information that outlined the basis on which the Council collects council tax. Since that time the Council has been involved in ongoing correspondence with the complainant about this. The Council has provided the Commissioner with examples of this ongoing correspondence to illustrate the nature of the complainant’s dissatisfaction, and the responses the Council has provided which contain its position on the matter, and advice to the complainant.
15. The Council considers that the requests have been made to continue this correspondence, place burden upon it, and force further engagement by the Council on the substantive matter.

The Commissioner’s conclusion

16. The Commissioner has reviewed the submissions received by both parties, as well the information requests as recorded in Annex A.
17. Having done so, the Commissioner is satisfied by the Council’s argument that the requests have been made by the complainant in connection with, and to continue, the substantive matter.
18. It is evident that the complainant holds strong views on the substantive matter, i.e., the liability to pay council tax, and more widely, the Council’s use of public monies. However, the Commissioner notes that

the Council has already provided that information it is able to about the basis on which it collects council tax, and that the Council has otherwise provided the complainant with its position and advice on how they should proceed.

19. The Commissioner also notes that the complainant's 'request' is in effect a large number of individual requests (approximately 100, spread across 8 pages of text) that have been submitted in one piece of correspondence. These requests relate to various subjects, including the operation of the Council, council spending, council tax, and telecoms masts. Whilst not all of these requests are directly related to council tax, the Commissioner remains satisfied, from the context, that they have been to force continued engagement by the Council on the substantive matter, and otherwise place burden upon it. However, even without this wider context, the Commissioner considers that the Council would be entitled to refuse such a large number of requests as vexatious on the sole grounds of burden.
20. In respect of those requests that are for environmental information (and specifically those within 'Part 3' of the correspondence, which contains approximately 9 requests for various information about phone masts), the Commissioner recognises that there is a presumption in disclosure. However, the context that these requests have been made for strongly suggest to the Commissioner that they have been not to gain information for public benefit, but to force continued engagement by the Council on the substantive matter, and otherwise place burden upon it. In this context, the Commissioner does not consider that there is an equal or greater public interest in these requests being complied with.
21. The Commissioner has therefore concluded that the Council's application of section 14(1) of FOIA was correct, and that for those requests which are for environmental information, it is entitled to rely upon regulation 12(4)(b) of the EIR.

Other matters

22. The FOIA does not require a public authority to provide an internal review process. However, it is good practice to offer an internal review, and, where a public authority chooses to do so, the code of practice established under section 45 of FOIA sets out, in general terms, the procedure that should be followed. The code states that reviews should be conducted promptly and within reasonable timescales.
23. The Commissioner has interpreted this to mean that internal reviews should take no longer than 20 working days in most cases, or 40 working days in exceptional circumstances. By the date of this notice,

the Council has not provided the complainant with the outcome of its internal review. The Commissioner considers that the Council has failed to act in accordance with the section 45 code of practice.

24. The Commissioner also reminds the Council that, unlike the FOIA, the EIR requires a public authority to provide an internal review process under regulation 11.
25. These concerns will be logged and used by the Commissioner when considering the overall compliance of the Council.

Right of appeal

26. Either party has the right to appeal against this decision notice to the First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights). Information about the appeals process may be obtained from:

First-tier Tribunal (Information Rights)
GRC & GRP Tribunals,
PO Box 9300,
LEICESTER,
LE1 8DJ

Tel: 0203 936 8963

Fax: 0870 739 5836

Email: grc@justice.gov.uk

Website: www.justice.gov.uk/tribunals/general-regulatory-chamber

27. If you wish to appeal against a decision notice, you can obtain information on how to appeal along with the relevant forms from the Information Tribunal website.
28. Any Notice of Appeal should be served on the Tribunal within 28 (calendar) days of the date on which this decision notice is sent.

Daniel Perry
Senior Case Officer
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

ANNEX A

Part 1

1. As 3C Shared services is a strategic partnership between the councils, what is your main role in relation to the Partnership with CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL?

1.1 When was this partnership agreed to by the public?

1.2 (a) to the best of your knowledge, were there any meetings held with the local residents' associations, prior to the partnership formed? Or (b) was this purely a corporate business decision taken by the Cambridge City councillors?

1.3 Please provide any documented minutes of meetings held, if so, is this available on the public record?

2. Please Confirm or deny, if 3C Shared Services is a private company i.e., non-public concern.

2.1 how is 3C Shared services funded?

2.2 Please confirm or deny, if 3C Shared Services is a publicly funded body, and how many employees are there.

2.3 under which legislation can I refer to, that allows CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL to form partnerships, other than government contractors who solely offer their services/scope of works under contractual terms.

2.4 why is CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL PO BOX 'doing business' using a PO Box number as the main postal address? Post Office box is a non-contracting venue, and has no land bound to anything.

2.5 Does 3C Shared Services/CAMBRIDGE CITY/COUNTY COUNCIL believe that they are acting under the rule of law by not using land registered address?

2.6 In the CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL's 'constitution', on page 40 you refer to 'corporate and other shared services' and 'non-corporate shared services'. Please explain what the differences are, especially what is referred to as 'other'.

3. In the CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL's Constitution, it states in 1.3.5. 'create a powerful and effective means of holding decision-makers to public account', and at 1.3.7. Please explain how this has been applied to current partnerships.

3.1 Is Greater Cambridge Partnership accountable to the public?

3.2 Is Greater Cambridge Partnership a democratically elected body? The governed must consent, not local councillors. When did the governed agree to any partnerships?

3.3 (a) The Greater Cambridge Partnership was, up until September 2012 a company registered doing business as a corporation (registration 05616060) was dissolved. How were they allowed to be in partnership with the Council/s, and make decisions in Cambridgeshire on our (the people's) behalf, when they had been awarded a government contract under Assurance Framework and agreed under the City Deal worth up to £500 Million, only to carry out the regeneration?

(b) What legislation/Statute allowed GCP to have CCC elected councillors on their board?

(c) (i) What legislation/Statute allowed the CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL to be on an unelected body such as GCP? (ii) Who authorised this within the council/s?

3.4. If the GCP were dissolved in 2012, why are they still registered with a D-U-N-S number 348163085?

(a) Please explain why the address registered as Res 1219 Shire Hall Cambridge CB3 0AP, but

(b) on GPC website has a PO Box number at Mandela House using the same postcode CB3 0AP?

[For the record I have a screenshot image from GPC website to evidence this as proof of claim] It has come to my attention that GCP are operating a 'for profit' enterprise? How can they be in partnership with CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY/CITY COUNCIL? Please explain.

3.5 It has also come to my attention that CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY/CITY COUNCIL has a registered D-U-N-S number were the Cambridgeshire residents ever consulted on the plans for a collaborative governance framework. Please confirm or deny if this the case.

Part 2

1. Was the Local Government Finance Act 1992, Council Tax Administration and Enforcement Regulations a UK legislation or the European Union decision?

2. The unprecedented installations of CCTV cameras throughout CAMBRIDGESHIRE and the CITY, approaching into the City are in fact breach

of several Human Rights including ¹ Human Rights Act 1998, European Convention on Human Rights, but not limited to. Please provide the legislation that was passed by the 650 MP's of Parliament Assembled that allows the CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL and those names of councillors that agreed upon and passed.

2.1 (a) when was this decision taken by the Councils?

(b) the date which it was agreed with the public, residents of Cambridgeshire? The governed.

(c) what is the purpose of these cameras?

(d) does the council comply with the GDPR data protection act 2018? If the answer is yes, which section of the GDPR regulations 2018 that exempts the Councils, which gives them power to authorise the CCTV cameras?

(e) Please confirm or deny that public servants answer to us the people (the governed). If that is not the case, then who is CAMBRIDGESHIRE/CITY COUNCIL accountable to?

2.2 How was this funded? i.e., was this a directive from the central government budget/grants or was it the Council's own decision? Or was this from an unelected entity i.e., an EU directive? Please provide evidence of expenditure for this project and for which period of year.

2.3 Under Section 114 of the LGFA 1988 requires the Head of Finance to report to the full council, executive and external auditor if any officers made decisions incurring unlawful expenditure. (a) Was the decision taken for expenditure to supply and install CCTV Monitoring cameras lawful? (b) which grant or budget was it finance from? and,

2.4 (c) Was the public ever consulted or consented to a consultation?

[It is unlawful to use domestic CCTV cameras outside the boundary of our private domestic property, i.e., neighbour, public footpaths. Equally, it is also unlawful/illegal for local authorities to use CCTV on public highways, in the public interest for monitoring purposes, as it breaches the GDPR regulations 2018. This was also confirmed by a FOIR request from the Security Industry Authority in UK. Their concern was monitoring public space. This is clearly the Law and breach of GDPR 2018 regulations]. (No one is above the law; all are equal under the rule of law).

3. Why was it necessary for the Council to launch a consultation for a proposed Congestion Charge, to simultaneously coincide with much needed major road improvements works to start for 2 years, particularly for Milton Road A1309?

3.1 I lived off Woodhead drive for 17 years and seen the condition of the Milton Road deteriorate but the Council never approved any repairs over that time. Why was it necessary for the CAMBRIDGE CITY/COUNTY to carry out a consultation document, knowing full well the roadworks would contribute to causing Congestion? If you disagree, please do state your objections without prejudice.

3.2 To my knowledge very few local councillors in the wards that are affected were actually able to answer the question but agreed that the timing was totally irrational, and I have to agree. I am asking the Council/s if this was a corporate policy decision?

¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/42/contents>

² https://www.echr.coe.int/documents/d/echr/convention_eng

³ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2013/468/article/3/made>

4. What is the Council's understanding of the term Corporate, other than doing business i.e., under a Corporate contract, Corporate Framework agreed upon by 'meeting of two sound minds' and signed through the Procurement process?

4.1 When did we the people of Cambridgeshire and the City or the country voted for a Corporate governance Local or Central?

4.2 On page 40 of the CCC constitution you refer to the corporate policies. Do these apply to corporate business only?

4.3 On page 57 under Miscellaneous functions 12, which laws and regulations are the Council complying with?

4.4 It has been brought to my attention, that within the CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL's own Legal Practice had claimed the Council does not require my consent or a signed contract to exist as described in 3, but under the Local Government Finance Act 1992 or CTAER 1992 for sending out a COUNCIL TAX BILL/DEMAND for each year. How is it then, the Council's own constitution claims contractual terms (which is legally binding) must exist to do corporate business, for goods and service provided by way of an invoice, but their assertion that the Council does not need a contract to charge/BILL for 'services' for my domestic property? Proof of evidence required.

4.5 Is it not the case, that LGFA 1992 (324 pages), CTAER Statutory Instrument (2 pages), ³ The Non-Domestic Rating and Council Tax 'definition order' 2013 (1page) and goodness knows what other amendments, regulations that exists regarding Council Tax, would actually apply to non-domestic, corporate, commerce businesses 'dwellings'? [It would appear that the UK Government and the Councils in England and Wales introduce

arbitrary rules, regulations, acts as they see fit. This is Fraudulent and unlawful and contravenes English Constitutional Law known as common Law].

Bill of Rights [1688] CHAPTER 2 1 Will and Mar Sess 2 (8 pages)
An Act declaring the Rights and Liberties of the Subject and Settling the Succession of the Crowne.
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/aep/WillandMarSess2/1/2/introduction>

Late dispensing Power.

That the pretended Power of Dispensing with Laws or the Execution of Laws by Regall Authoritie as it hath beene assumed and exercised of late is illegall.

It is evidently clear that Parliament Assembled (650 MP's) are unconstitutional and has subverted the English Constitutional Superior Statutes which are still current laws.

4.5 How is my home, a 'dwelling', hereditament? I have a 'living' accommodation (...my inalienable right to own property Freehold), Bill of Rights 1688.

4.6 Please state where in any of the legislation LGFA, CTAER 1992 that the CAMBRIDGE CITY/CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNCILS rely upon, which states my lawful or legal 'Obligation' to pay a tax to a Local Government/Authority/Council?

[Presumptions of law has no legal basis in a court of law] 'Ignorance of the rule of law is no excuse'.

5. Please explain where in the LGFA 1992 Act or the Regulations to my home/property being a 'dwelling'? It may surprise to know that the term 'non-domestic' is stated 124 times [meaning dwellings, hereditament, buildings, offices, Corporations, Registered Businesses, Commercial Enterprises doing Business]. My home is NOT a commercial business. A term implied, assertion, presumed is not a point of law. There has to be substance and not form.

Meaning of "dwelling"

(3) A hereditament which—

(a) is a composite hereditament for the purposes of Part III of the 1988 Act; and

(b) would still be such a hereditament if paragraphs (b) to (d) of section 66(1) of that Act (domestic property) were omitted,

6. It has come to my attention that CAMBRIDGE CITY/CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL has the 'power to extinguish' the sale of public land to

corporate enterprises/developers without the consent of the governed. Please provide evidence of where this authority/power was granted by the public?

6.1 I need you to provide me with the total expenditure for all sell-offs to private developers for the period 2019 – 2023 tax years, and where this revenue was invested?

6.2 if the due process was followed and the planning permission which was granted.

6.3 Please confirm and provide evidence that the Head of Finance/Monitoring officer did give approval for each sale application to a corporate/developer. (Should you require examples of any public land which is now in private corporations' hands, I'm happy to provide on request). Was the due process/protocol followed by the Council?

6.4 Under section 70 (1) (a) and (b) of Town & Country Planning act 1990 (664 pages no less), (a) how many planning applications were determined/approved by the Council (b) and how many were declined for planning contravention, breach of condition notices under section 171C, 187A and 183 (1) for the period 2000 – 2020 tax year?

6.5 If so, on what grounds were they approved/declined/refused planning permission?

6.6. In the CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL's Constitution part 3 Discharge of Functions, page 86 states: 'the granting of licences over the Council's land'. When did it become not public land and the property of the Council?

7. In January 2023 CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL voted amongst themselves for a four-day working week trial at South Cambridgeshire District Council for three months. When did the public residents of Cambridgeshire notified? The public are your employers, or;

7.1 the Council do not need their consent, and,

7.2 as we are now in July, has the City Councillors voted to continue this scheme?

7.3 has this been also trialled at CAMBRIDGE CITY/COUNTY Councils?

7.4 provide the legislation that gives CAMBRIDGE CITY/COUNTY Council the 'Power to determine' four-day working week?

8. Local governments has limited powers as do UK Government, within the Law (Intra Vires) WITH POWER, do the CAMBRIDGE CITY/COUNTY Council believes they have acted BEYOND THEIR POWER (Ultra Vires)?

Part 3

1. It has come to my attention as a Cambridge resident and speaking to local residents, that over the last 5-6 years 2020 in particular there has been many (telecom masts) mobile phone masts, from four network operators so far has been installed. Please provide a copy of the consultation document which was debated with the public at large.
<https://pedroc.co.uk/locations/cambridge-masts>

2. It is CAMBRIDGE CITY/COUNTY COUNCIL's responsibility to inform the public, especially when it involves public safety in regards to any potential health risks to the human body with EMF radiation emissions. Please provide a copy of the planning applications for the four network operators Vodafone, O2, EE and 3 to proceed?

3. Provide the Risk Assessment that was researched and surveyed, either the Council Town Planning, and by the network operators themselves?

4. Did the CAMBRIDGE CITY/COUNTY COUNCIL use their 'Power to determine' applications for hazardous substances (material) consent, and related powers, in relation to Mobile phone masts?

4.1 The Council is duty bound under Section 9 (1) and 10 of the Planning (Hazardous Substances) Act 1990 (c.10) to ensure the health and safety of the public in public area where commercial enterprises do not contravene H&S guidelines or regulations. Please provide evidence to support this Councils.

4.2 If the CAMBRIDGE CITY/COUNTY COUNCIL feels the Act does not apply to the Councils, please state the reason.

4.3 in the UK, the responsibility of planning policy when it comes to telecom masts is that of the Ministry of Housing, Communities, and Government (DCLG). Please provide copies of the Council's own risk assessment that was surveyed, researched and the qualified study report published [which you should have as recorded information], which supports your claim that it is safe? and

4.4 please confirm or deny, if a member of public wanted to erect any telecommunication masts on their private home, they will be required to make an application to the council under current health and safety regulations, risk assessment?

5. When did the CAMBRIDGE CITY/COUNTY COUNCILS give planning permission and approval for these masts to be erected on public land/scape?
(a) development requiring 'Prior Approval', (b) development requiring 'Planning Permission'.

Part 4

1. Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am entitled to request access to all recorded information available for Public Sector. As a Cambridge resident, and in the public interest I am requesting the total income received from UK Government, includes income revenue, such as capital, grants received, what is the actual figures of funds received from UK Government per year v total expenditure by CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL, HDC, SCDC.

[Please note: If you are quoting website addresses, links, it must only be to support and evidence your answers]

Please provide a full breakdown by year for the following periods:

1.1 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023.

1.2 During the tax 2020-2021, provide the breakdown amount from that budget received for the NHS Covid vaccination programme, and

1.3 the total amount spent on advertising by the Councils informing residents for the government rollout by the Councils .

1.4 provide the percentage increase of council tax year on year from 2006-2023, and

1.5 I would prefer the information to be on MS Excel format spreadsheet, and

1.6 are the Councils aware of any other funds for services they could potentially receive from UK Government?

2. Please provide the number of full-time staff employed by CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL.

2.1 during the tax year 2020/21, were there any 'Loss of office' or remunerated payments received by any of the staff also if there are any other year periods requested, as above?

2.2 how are the CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL and CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL's staff pensions funded?

2.3 provide a list of published salaries, that must be for all the senior management team and CEO's of all Councils, i.e., County, City SCDC, HDC. Public has right to know the Public sector pay as recorded information.

3. On page 366 of the Council's Constitution in General Principles states – Selflessness, integrity, Objectivity and Accountability, on each section begins

with 'Holders of public office' (Public Sector) that means You the Councils answer to the public. Why then is CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL operating as a Corporate Enterprise doing business as such? Registered as Corporations for all locations?

3.1 Is the CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL and CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL's doing business as 'for profit' corporations?

3.2 solicitors, lawyers, barristers, judges will not accept any correspondence from a PO Box location, why is the CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL address registered as a PO Box? It is not a contracting venue, as described in Part 1 2.4 above, and furthermore,

3.3 why do the Councils use window envelopes? sending Internal a window envelope via Royal Mail® . The address must appear on the envelope. Therefore, opening such mail makes the recipient an accessory to an offense, and is fraudulent is it not? Under the Forgery and Counterfeiting Act 1981

1. The offence of forgery.

A person is guilty of forgery if he makes a false instrument, with the intention that he or another shall use it to induce somebody to accept it as genuine, and by reason of so accepting it to do or not to do some act to his own or any other person's prejudice.

4 <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/45/section/1>

4. On CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL's Council Tax BILL/DEMAND it states: 'How the Tax is arrived at for 'e.g., Band X

4.1 Please explain the following;

(a) Why am being asked to pay additionally for CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL [a Corporation] doing business as a 'for profit' company? D-U-N-S number 219047347 ??

(b) Why am I being asked to pay for additionally for CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL [a Corporation] doing business as a 'for profit' company? D-U-N-S number 236659447 ??

(c) There are a number of companies and sub-companies that are associated with postcode CB2 3Qj,, How are these companies a benefit the to the council tax payer?

(d) Why am I being asked to pay additionally for CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER [a Corporation] doing business as a 'for profit' company? D-U-N-S number 221472310 ? ?

(e) Why am I being asked to pay additionally for Adult Social Care and the Combined Fire Authority?

(f) Is it not the case, that all Local Councils in England and Wales receives funding for ALL the local services from the Central Government? Where does the Council/s think the funds to pay for all the local services come from? If this is incorrect, please explain in detail in the first instance, referring to websites ONLY to support your claims.

Local Government Act 1888 - Proceedings of Councils and Committees, Section 79

(2) All duties and liabilities of the inhabitants of a county shall become and be duties and liabilities of the council of such county.

5. For the past 2021/22 financial year and the current 2022/23 financial year, please furnish actual and projected (respectively) spreadsheet breakdowns showing the income versus expenditure for court action with regard to council tax arrears:

5.1 By income mean any monies the council obtained from court costs obtained by the application and successful granting of fees associated with summonses and liability orders for the actual 21/22 period and 22/23 projected period requested.

5.2 By expenditure I mean any monies the council spent or allocated toward the costs of processing, enforcing, executing the operations involved with the business of council tax arrears, court action etc.,

- Expenditure line items should be comprehensive and include but not be limited to:

- Associated Salary costs for the recovery team
- Associated Salary costs for the revenues and benefits team
- Associated salary costs of any other staff involved
- Licence costs for each revenues and benefits system
- IT recharge costs
- Postage costs
- Printing and stationery costs
- Court summons costs
- Court Liability Order costs
- Other court costs
- Travel costs (including court travel costs)
- Credit Reference Agency search costs
- Customer services costs
- Bad debt provision costs

When detailing staff costs, please also indicate the number of staff from each team/department that are included in the calculations and what percentage of that staffs' time is used to apportion staff costs.

Please supply the information data requested in Excel format.