



REQUEST 18078

We would like to request the following information.

1. **Tax year 24/25:** The number of times between **1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025** that private bailiffs/enforcement agents have been instructed to enforce **council tax debts** owed to the local authority.
2. **Tax year 23/24:** The number of times between **1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024** that private bailiffs/enforcement agents have been instructed to enforce **council tax debts** owed to the local authority.

Please provide a **separate figure for each tax year**, rather than a combined figure.

By “private bailiffs/enforcement agents” we mean those who are self-employed or who work for private companies, including as high court enforcement officers. Please include cases where local authority employees have visited a property to enforce a warrant of control.

3. Do you **currently have a policy** of exempting recipients of Council Tax Support / Reduction from the use of bailiff action? (Yes/No)

RESPONSE

Question	Year	Number of liability orders
1	2024/25	18552
2	2023/24	11101

Please note, cases are recorded in the form of Liability Orders issued and not based on Council Tax accounts. It is possible for an account to have multiple Liability Orders so the above figures may not reflect the true number of accounts passed to enforcement agencies for the periods stated. The figures quoted may also contain a duplicate count of some Liability Orders, i.e. where a Liability Order is issued to an Enforcement Agent but returned for reasons such as a debtor absconding, the same Liability Order may be re-referred to an Enforcement Agent (if necessary) at a later date (if traced and there was no engagement from the debtor) and therefore would appear twice in the figures.

These figures do not include cases that have been visited by our internal agents as we are unable to accurately record this information.

3. No