



Please provide the following data for your local authority area for each financial year from FY 2014/15 to FY 2024/25 (or the latest available year):

1. The total number of business rates accounts (hereditaments) liable for business rates at year end.

Please see attached data that has been recorded at the end of the financial year for each period in question which we have available to report on.

2. The total amount of business rates billed (£).

Questions 2, 3, 4 and 5:

3. The total amount of business rates collected (£).

The information you have requested is considered exempt under Section 21 of the Act, which applies to information which is available to you by other means. This information can be obtained from the governments website [Council Tax statistics - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/council-tax-statistics)

4. The total value of business rates arrears outstanding at year end (£).

5. The number of business rates accounts in arrears at year end.

As this information is reasonably accessible to you by other means, we are not obliged to provide this information to you under the Freedom of Information Act.

6. The number of liability orders sought in respect of unpaid business rates.

Please see attached data that has been recorded at the end of the financial year for each period in question. We have provided all the data that is currently recorded.

7. The number of cases referred to enforcement agents (bailiffs) for non-payment of business rates.

Please see attached data that has been recorded at the end of the financial year for each period in question. We have provided all the data that is currently recorded.

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.