



Brighton & Hove City Council
Information Rights Team
Room 233
Hove Town Hall
Norton Road
Hove
BN3 3BQ

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FOI Reference: 18899389
Email: ###
Date: 18 June 2025

Dear ###

Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request for information to Brighton & Hove City Council ('the council') that was received on 23 May 2025. We have now processed your request and our response is below.

Your request:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, 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)

Our response:

In processing your request we liaised with colleagues within Welfare Revenues & Business Support as they would hold the information in relation to your request were this information to be held by the council.

We can confirm that the information requested is held by the council. The information you requested is detailed below.

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.

Response: 11,237.

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.

Response: 5,119.

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

Response: Yes.

Please quote the reference number **18899389** in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an Internal Review. Internal Review requests should be submitted within 40 working days of the date of receipt of this response and should be addressed to:

freedomofinformation@brighton-hove.gov.uk

or by post to the address at the top of this letter.

If you are still dissatisfied with the Council's response after the Internal Review you have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

<https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/foi-and-eir-complaints/foi-and-eir-complaints/>

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF.
Telephone: 0303 123 1113
Website: www.ico.org.uk

We will now close your request as of this date.

Yours sincerely

Information Rights Team