



# EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Further to your information request FOI/EIR 22/23-311 please find your question and our response below.

## Request:

In accordance with the provisions specified within the above Act I hereby request the following information or an update of the information since the last request. All information requested relates to Business Rates.

Required Information; - A list of all live business rates accounts with a 2017 list Rateable Value greater than or equal to £5,000.

- Property Reference Number (also known as Billing Authority Reference Number) of the property on which the charge is made. Please note that this is not the Rate Demand or Rate Account Number.
- Current rateable value
- Account holder name
- Property address
- The billing address (where different to the property address), the contact telephone number and email address
- The date the current ratepayer became liable for the business rates – we do not require any historical account liability dates only the current ratepayer's liability start date
- Where a property is currently empty please provide the date the ratepayer became liable for empty rates
- Where there is an exemption on the account please provide the start and end date and type of exemption applied (e.g. listed building)
- Where there is a relief on the account please provide the date it was applied and the type of relief (e.g. charity)
- We do not require any personal information or sole traders.

## Response:

This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 31 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. In respect of those requests that are answered in full, partially or the total refused, please take this as notice under FOIA, that we:

- a) Consider the information as exempt from disclosure under the Act;
- b) Claim exempt under sections of the Act:

### **Section 31(1)(a) – Law Enforcement**

- c) State why the exemption applies:

***31(1) Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 30 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice - (a) the prevention or detection of crime.***

***Section 31(1)(a) provides an exemption where prejudice could be caused to allow potential fraudsters to use the information to identify business entities or individuals which were entitled to claim credits on their accounts. Once such a business or individual had been identified, there would be a number of avenues open to the fraudsters to seek to obtain funds.***

***Disclosure of this information would result in the need to implement disproportionate steps and additional expense to the public purse to counter an increased fraud risk that does not exist at present and this information will therefore not be released.***

This concludes your request FOI/EIR 22/23-311

If information has been refused please treat this as a Refusal Notice for the purposes of the Act.

If you disagree with our decision or are otherwise unhappy with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you may approach [foi@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:foi@eastcambs.gov.uk) and request a review. A request for review must be made in no more than 40 working days from the date of this email.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under s50 of the Freedom of Information Act to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.