



Further to your information request FOI/EIR 24/25-529, please find your question and our response below.

**Request:**

*In reference to FOI/EIR 24/25-484 (I note that private enforcement agents were instructed in respect of Council Tax on 1246 occasions during the period April 2022/23. Can you please let me know the amounts of the debts involved? Also, in which wards the properties are, the type of property and into which Tax band they fall? I shall be obliged if you can also let me have similarly categorised information in respect of the 27 cases which relate to taken action following overpayments of Housing Benefit. I would also like to know the locations and types of businesses involved in relation to the 53 cases involving Business rates, and the amounts in each case. Finally, I note that ECDC has not adopted the Citizens Advice/LGA Council Tax Protocol. Can someone advise please if the terms of the other protocols which ECDC adheres to replicate this protocol exactly, and if not what the differences are?)*

I would like to know the level of debt per case, as well as the distribution between home types and areas of the District (a line per case).

As to my question concerning the Citizens Advice/LGC Tax Protocol. Thank you for advising me which system is worked from, but what I would really like to know is in what way (if any) this differs from the Citizens Advice/LGA Tax Protocol. If there is a difference a brief explanation would be much appreciated.

**Response:**

We are unable to provide home types, but the remaining information requested is shown on the attached files.

Council Tax – Attachment 1

Housing Benefit – Attachment 2

Business Rates – Attachment 3

There is no difference between the Citizens Advice protocol and that which the council follow except that within the protocol it recommends using the Standard Financial Statement whereas ECDC use our own well-established Income & Expenditure form, referred to as a TRIP form, but for the same purpose.

This concludes your request FOI/EIR 24/25-529.

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.