



Further to your information request FOI/EIR 24/25-164, please find your question and our response below.

Request:

In terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I hereby request a list of unclaimed council tax credit balances. Please note I am not asking for business rates credits. Please can this information be provided to me in an Excel Spreadsheet, including the following fields:

- Ratepayer name
- Property Address
- Billing Authority Reference
- Amount of credit
- The period or financial year of the credit

Response:

East Cambridgeshire District Council confirms that we do hold the information requested but has taken guidance from the [ICO decision notice](#) and we longer provide Business Rates or Council Tax credits information.

Section 41(1)(a) of the Act provides that information is exempt if it was obtained by the public authority from any other person (or company, local authority or any other legal entity) and disclosure of the information to the public by the public authority holding it, would constitute a breach of confidence. The information was provided to the Council from the Valuation Office and from the ratepayer themselves, and we consider that this information is provided in confidence. It is our view that disclosure of this information would constitute an actionable breach of confidence and so disclosure would also be unlawful under the Act. Section 41 of the Freedom of Information Act confers an absolute exemption on disclosure and there is no public interest test to apply.

This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 41(1) 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 41(1) Information Provided in Confidence

- c) State why the exemption applies:

41.(1) Information is exempt information if — (a) it was obtained by the public authority from any other person (including another public authority), and, (b) the disclosure of the information to the public (otherwise than under this Act) by the public authority holding it would constitute a breach of confidence actionable by that or any other person.

This concludes your request FOI/EIR 24/25-164.

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 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.