

**Request:**

I would like to know:

1. How many liability orders has the council sought over council tax arrears between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2023?
2. How many of these liability orders has resulted in bailiffs being sent to collect the debt?

**Response:**

1. 19693
2. There is no report that can be produced or created to identify this information. The only way it could be gathered would be to manually examine each of the 19693 Liability Orders and determine if recovery action taken required the Liability Order to be sent to an Enforcement Agent to collect the debt.

It is estimated it would take between 1 and 5 minutes to check each Liability Order. Even at 1 minute per Order this would take 19693 minutes (328 hours). Therefore, this part of the request is refused under section 12 (1) Freedom of Information Act 2000, since the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004.

In assessing the cost of complying, the costs attributable to officer time involved in complying have been considered. Such costs are limited to £450.00 under the Regulations, which equates to eighteen hours of officer time.

The information supplied to you is owned by the council unless otherwise stated and may be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research or for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use of a commercial nature will require the permission of the Council. Further enquiries in this respect should be directed to Head of Law and Governance, North Tyneside Council, Quadrant The Silver Link North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY