

Reference: FOI3734

Request:

Dear Sir/Madam.

Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

This is a request for Business Rate information, to be dealt with in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

We wish to obtain information relating to unclaimed business rate credit balances, including any write-on's (credits written down to nil).

Please provide me with a list of credit balances (and write-on's) currently held on business rate accounts within your Billing Authority, which remain due to be repaid to Limited Companies. It would be helpful if the following information could be provided in each case:-

- * The name of the Company to whom any business rate credit balance (or write-on) remains payable;
- * The amount of the overpayment (write-on) which remains unclaimed;
- * The years(s) in which overpayment (write-on) was made;
- * The hereditament address.

Response:

Your request is refused under Section 31 (1) (a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The reason for this is that there is a public interest in ensuring that monies from the public purse, such as rebates on business rates accounts, are not fraudulently claimed and also a public interest in not making it easier for fraud to be committed.

For further information please see the Information Commissioner's Decision notices at the following links

https://ico.org.uk/media/action-weve-taken/decision-notices/2017/2013485/fs50619844.pdf and

https://ico.org.uk/media/action-weve-taken/decision-notices/2018/2173119/fs50671834.pdf

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