

Date Provided: 2 May 2018

## Council Tax Court Summonses

Ref: EFOI / 6686

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### Information Request and Response by Eastbourne Borough Council

1. *How many court summonses did you issue or were issued on your authority's behalf for late or non-payment of Council Tax in:*

2016/17: 4465

2017/18: 6407

*Please break this data down by the wards of the addresses to which the summonses were sent.*

2. *How many council tax liability orders were issued in your authority as a result of the summonses issued in Q1 during: a) 2016/17, b) 2017/18*

*Please break this data down by the wards of the addresses to which the liability orders were applied.*

*Please specify for Q2 precisely which powers the courts gave to you (e.g. salary deductions, benefits deductions etc.) if possible. Such a table might look like this:*

*Power / times granted in 2016/17 / times granted in 2017/18*

*benefits deductions / 5,000 / 7,000*

*bankruptcy applications / 20 / 30*

Unfortunately Eastbourne Borough Council is not able to break down summonses by ward and is also not able to supply detailed information over powers granted by the court etc. However, listed below is the prescribed legislation:

“The making of the liability order against the liable persons provides the authority with the power to obtain relevant information about the financial and other circumstances to those concerned and to apply any of the following remedies to obtain monies due –

- a) Taking control of goods
- b) Attachment of earnings

- c) Attachment of local authority members' allowances
- d) Deductions from income support
- e) Bankruptcy or winding-up
- f) Charging orders"

We apply for the liability orders in bulk and once that LO has been granted we then have the powers to be able to carry out any of the above any time afterwards.