

36829 Unpaid Council Tax

How many unpaid Council Tax reminders have been sent out for the last 5 financial years for which data is available?

Number of reminders sent overall, broken down by year

Number of households sent reminders, broken down by year

Please refer to the tables and notes provided below in response to Q3 and Q4:

How many a) court summons b) liability orders did the council issue for unpaid Council Tax for the last 5 financial years for which data is available?

Number issued overall, broken down by year

Number of households issued, broken down by year

Number of reminders issued, broken down by year

We do not issue Court Summons or Liability Orders as these are English legislation terms.

For the last 5 financial years for which data is available

How many households are in Council Tax arrears, broken down by year?

How much is owed overall in Council Tax arrears, broken down by year?

Please refer to the tables and notes below:

Council Tax Reminders			
Financial Years	Number of Reminders*	Number of Households**	Number of Dwellings (as differs from households)
2017-18	79,955	59,243	53,591
2018-19	73,510	56,080	51,074
2019-20	72,056	54,478	49,572
2020-21***	45,554	36,561	36,415
2021-22	74,231	55,475	50,240
Grand Total	345,306	261,837	240,892

Notes:

* This includes second reminders sent in some cases where debt is later amended.

** Number of Council Tax accounts has been taken to represent households given that only one Council Tax account can be created for any one household at any one given time. This means dwellings are likely duplicated where household changes within a financial year. It is probable that the data includes periods for when the dwelling is unoccupied and the owner is liable for Council Tax, but these are very few if not of insignificant value.

***2020/21 – Reminder runs were suspended for part of the year.

Council Tax Arrears		
Financial Years	Council Tax Arrears	Households in Arrears
2021-22	13,254,871.89	40,561.00
2020-21	12,975,800.86	32,621.00
2019-20	10,050,827.50	30,674.00
2018-19	8,690,496.48	27,766.00
2017-18	8,152,936.60	26,839.00
2016-17	7,673,123.63	27,560.00
Grand Total	60,798,056.96	186,021.00

Note: Arrears include write-offs and Summary penalties.

How many a) overall b) households have applied for a special repayment plan to pay Council Tax for the last 5 financial years for which data is available, broken down by year?

How many a) overall b) households have the council agreed a special repayment plan with to pay Council Tax arrears for the last 5 financial years for which data is available, broken down by year?

How many a) overall b) households have asked for help from the council regarding Council Tax arrears repayment for the last 5 financial years for which data is available, broken down by year?

There are no markers on these accounts which would enable us to extract the requested information from our system.

For the last 5 financial years for which data is available:

How many households have the council taken 'enforcement action' against to collect unpaid Council Tax, please breakdown by type of enforcement action, broken down by year?

How many 'enforcement actions' have been used by the council, to collect unpaid Council Tax, overall, please breakdown by type of enforcement action, broken down by year?

How many referrals have the council made to bailiffs in order to collect unpaid Council Tax, broken down by year?

How many households have the council referred to bailiffs over unpaid Council Tax, broken down by year?

Please refer to the tables below:

City of Edinburgh Council – Council Tax				
Number of Households				
Year	Charges	Bank Arrestments	Earnings Arrestments	Sequestrations
2017/18	14,046	497	3,110	126
2018/19	14,786	502	2,595	144
2019/20	14,424	476	1,746	129
2020/21	7,894	247	541	0
2021/22	17,458	500	2,125	0

City of Edinburgh Council – Council Tax				
Year	No. of Accounts	Value of Accounts	Amount Recovered	Amount Recovered (Year Total)
2017/18	48,025	£34,906,284.17	£8,783,164.25	£15,351,198.33
2018/19	24,632	£13,618,966.15	£2,079,231.29	£2,806,855.77
2019/20	17179	£10,061,434.07	£2,493,614.78	£4,329,820.56
2020/21	11,840	£9,087,959.11	£2,053,733.90	£4,313,892.42
2021/22	27,151	£14,283,440.35	£3,564,277.80	£5,910,805.26