

McMahon, Lucy

From: FOI Responses
Sent: 18 April 2024 13:13
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED] Response

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 19 March 2024, for information about costs covered by council tax for Business Doncaster.

Please find below City of Doncaster Council’s responses to the questions you have raised.

Request:

“I have contacted Business Doncaster twice by email asking for details of their funding, specifically how much of their costs are covered by council tax, and how much comes from other sources.”

Response:

The Business Doncaster service function within City of Doncaster Council (CDC) is budgeted to cost £3.358m in 2023/24 and is funded from a range of sources as follows:

Funding Source	£’m
Government Grants	1.538
Non-Government Grants and Contributions	0.050
Other Operating Income and Customer Receipts	0.181
CDC General Fund Resources	1.589
TOTAL	3.358

Regarding the element of your request, “specifically how much of their costs are covered by Council Tax”, City of Doncaster Council do not hold data relating to expenditure incurred, that has solely been funded from Council Tax income. The CDC General Fund Resources figure quoted in the table above, is funded from a range of sources that will include, but is not limited to, Council Tax.

For information, and outside of the FOI process, I can provide further details as follows. However please note this cannot be included in any appeal that may be made:

Council Tax income funds roughly 24% of the total expenditure the Council spends in the delivery of services, therefore it is not possible to split out and show only what Council Tax income is spent on – it is one of many income sources that add together to form the total revenue budget of the Council.

Further information is available to you – the Council publishes on its website Revenue Budget and year-end accounts information (Statement of Accounts).

As this information is available on the City of Doncaster Council website, this information is exempt from disclosure under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act. Section 21 exempts information from the right of access if that information is reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means - if you follow the instructions and click on the links you will find the relevant information:

1. The Revenue Budget reports presented to Full Council each year in February/March detail the full Council budget – they provide details of what the Council has planned to spend. The reports are accessible by clicking on the following link (the Revenue Budget report for the current financial year 2024/25 is displayed at the centre of the page, with links to prior years further down the page):

<https://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/the-council-democracy/revenue-and-capital-budget>

2. The Statement of Accounts present the year-end accounts information in a format prescribed by accounting standards and legislation, and are accessible by clicking on the following link (links to the most recently published information (2022/23) are displayed at the centre of the page, with a link to prior years further down the page):

<https://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/the-council-democracy/statement-of-accounts>

In addition to the above, in accordance with the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, the Council has to make the year-end accounts information available to public inspection for a period of 30 working days – please see local press for notices published each summer that will detail the applicable time period to view the preceding financial year’s accounts information.

To reiterate, this additional ‘for information’ section is to provide some context to your reference to how much of Business Doncaster’s “costs are covered by Council Tax”. Should you wish to appeal the response to your Freedom of Information request please note this part of our response will not be included within the appeal.

I hope that this information is useful to you.

City of Doncaster Council estimates that it has cost £46.00 to respond to this request for information.

Reviewing any decisions made:

If you are not happy with this reply you can ask us to review our response. To do this write to us within 40 working days of receiving your response at the address below or email FOIAppeals@doncaster.gov.uk

If you do not agree with the review decision you can apply to the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) for a decision about our compliance or otherwise with the Freedom of Information legislation. Contact details for the ICO are: Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. www.ico.org.uk Telephone 0303 123 1113.

Yours sincerely,

Lucy McMahon
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Corporate Resources
City of Doncaster Council

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