

**My Ref:** IGO-1367  
**Your Ref:**  
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Requester

At contact address specified for request number above

31 August 2012

Dear Requester

**Re: Your request for information**

I write in response to your correspondence dated 02 August 2012. Please accept my sincere apologies for the delay in responding to your request.

As the information you requested is not personal or environmental it has been processed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA).

I have investigated your request and the answers to your questions are as follows.

Funding totals:

1. How much does the council expect to spend on council tax benefit in 2012/13? (Please provide the figure for the council itself, e.g. A figure which does not include amounts relating to any precepting authorities and so is comparable to the 2013/14 figure provided by DCLG in Annex A of its funding consultation <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/2146644>)

The City Council is estimating to spend £29.287m on council tax benefit (excluding other precepting authorities)

2. If the council has made a different calculation of the funding change between 2012/13 and 2013/14, what is the result of this calculation and how was it made?

The City Council estimates the cost to be £30.320m in 2013/14 assuming council tax increase in line with planning assumptions (2.5%) and increase in demand for benefits (estimated 1% increase).

3. How much does the council expect to spend on single person's discount in 2013/14.

Not calculated at this time

### Empty Homes

4. What is the maximum additional income the council would receive in 2013/14 if it scrapped the discount on empty homes completely?

The extra income per annum is estimated to be £2.197m (excluding income of £77k per annum from increase in second homes charge)

5. Is the council minded to use the new powers to change discounts on empty homes?

City Council is considering the use of the new powers, however no formal decisions have been taken at this stage. Therefore in accordance with s1 of this act this information cannot be provided as it is not held by this authority

6. If yes to question 5, what change to the discount and what additional income does the council expect from this?

No decisions have taken at this stage, therefore in accordance with section 1 of this act this information cannot be provided as it is not held by this authority.

7. If there is any extra explanation or context you'd like to provide about the scheme design, please do.

### Second Homes

8. What is the maximum additional income the council would receive in 2013/14 if it scrapped the discount on second homes completely?

The maximum generated from this is £77k in 2013/14

9. Is the council minded to use the new powers to apply additional council tax to second homes?

City Council is considering the use of the new powers, however no formal decisions have been taken at this stage. Therefore in accordance with s1 of this act this information cannot be provided as it is not held by this authority.

10. If yes to question 10, what change to the discount and what additional income does the council expect from this?

No decisions have taken at this stage, therefore in accordance with section 1 of this act this information cannot be provided as it is not held by this authority.

11. If there is any extra explanation or context you'd like to provide about the scheme design, please do.

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If you should have any questions please contact me on the above number quoting your personal case reference which is **IGO-1367**.

If you are not satisfied with the response provided or any exemptions applied you should write in the first instance to **Simon Salmon, Information Governance, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham, NG2 3NG** stating the reasons for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied after receiving the response to your initial complaint you can request an independent review from the Information Commissioner's Office at **FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF**. You may also contact the Information Commissioner's Office by telephone on 01625 545745 or by email at [mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely,

Ravi Nagra-Kumar  
**Information Governance Officer**  
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