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FOI and RPSI requests for current list of assigned council tax band of every property in Birmingham City Council area

1 message

Owen Boswarva <owen.boswarva@gmail.com>

10 December 2024 at 07:33

To: infogovernance@birmingham.gov.uk

Good morning,

Information request

I would like to request the Council's current list of all domestic properties within the Birmingham City Council area, including (at minimum) the full address, the assigned Council Tax band, the Council's property reference, and the Unique Property Reference Number (UPRN) for each property on the list.

My preference is to receive the above information electronically in a re-usable file format such as Excel or CSV.

Re-use request

I further request, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015, permission to re-use all information provided in response to the above access to information request for the purpose of combining that information with data from existing open public datasets and making the outputs available to others in a re-usable electronic form under an open licence. I request that Birmingham City Council grants permission to re-use the information for this purpose either without restriction or under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3 (<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>) or an equally permissive licence. Given my intended use, any more restrictive licensing terms would be likely to "unnecessarily restrict" the way in which the information can be re-used, contrary to RoPSIR regulation 12.

If any third party owns intellectual property rights in any of the above requested information, which the Council is not authorised to license as requested, please specify the relevant information and the name of the third party.

Further information request

If Birmingham City Council is unable to disclose any of the above requested information, or is unable to grant permission to re-use any of the information as requested, please also disclose any information that the Council holds explaining those restrictions or barriers, including any relevant contract or agreement to which the Council is a party or under which the Council is bound.

Additional notes

1. I think the Council Tax address list is most likely to be held by the Council's Council Tax team.
2. I am aware that the Valuation Office Agency provides an online lookup service for Council Tax bands, but do not consider that this service makes the bulk address data I am requesting "reasonably accessible" to me within the meaning of section 21 of the FOI Act.
3. You may be interested to know that Leeds City Council has recently published a 2024 version of its Council Tax address list, under the Open Government Licence (OGL):

Council tax bands of all properties in Leeds

<https://datamillnorth.org/dataset/em7lg/council-tax-bands-of-all-properties-in-leeds>

I understand from correspondence that, prior to this publication, Leeds consulted Ordnance Survey and established that there were no third-party licensing barriers to OGL licensing of the addresses and UPRNs, but that Royal Mail would likely object to the inclusion of postcodes. If you find that is also the position with Birmingham's Council Tax list, I am content to receive full addresses without postcodes.

Thank you for your attention to the above requests.

Best regards,

Owen Boswarva

Contact details

e-mail: owen.boswarva@gmail.com

telephone: [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

address: [REDACTED]