

Summary of Write Off's

Debts written off in 2022/23

Period 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023 relating to any year

Write Offs	Council Tax £	Business Rates £	Housing Benefit Overpayment £	Adult Services £	Miscellaneous Income £	HRA (Service Charges) £	Parking £	Libraries £	HRA Tenants £
Under £5k	380,532.21	141,513.02	85,898	34,814	350,404	39	700,131.70	1507.90	53,587.46
£5k-£25k	11,025.11	225,521.69	39,431	16,426	47,583	0	0.00		0
Over £25k	0.00	309,800.20	0	0	0	0	0.00		0
Total	391,557.32	676,834.91	125,329	51,240	397,987	39	700,131.7	1507.90	53,587.46

Write off's greater than £25,000 that are submitted for approval for this period.

Amount to write off		Service Area
£183,353.23	<p>The Hive Enterprise Centre (Southend Victoria) Ltd – Unpaid Service Charges due. Cabinet previously approved the write off of £25,873.29 for unpaid business Rates for this company on 8th November 2022. The Council were working to establish the full finalised service charges for the company at this time, this has now been completed and consequently this report is seeking approval of the remaining charges due. This company were tenants of the former library building on Victoria Avenue between 2015-2022. They were invoiced annually for service charges in respect of the property that they were liable for paying in accordance with the lease. They were being continually chased for payment but never made any payments, eventually the company entered into liquidation in September 2022 and the property was handed back to the Council. A claim for the outstanding balance has been submitted to the liquidator, however there is likely to be no dividend paid.</p>	Enterprise & Community
£37,404.00	<p>NHS Southend CCG – Health Contribution to Youth Offending Service 2017-18. Health Service are of the view that this is a voluntary contribution that they have not agreed to and should never have been invoiced for. Despite trying to resolve this matter since the invoice was raised in 2017, we have been unable to reach agreement. The Council have now accepted that payment will not made.</p>	Youth Offending

<p>£45,188.35</p>	<p>UK Auto Sales Limited – Commercial Rent</p> <p>The company were tenants of 16 Brunel Road between 2018-2021, when they were evicted by the Council due to rent arrears. These arrears had built up over the period affected by Covid-19, during which the Council were prohibited from taking enforcement action to try and recover the rent owed. Despite trying to engage with the tenant it was necessary to evict them due to the arrears. Having sought legal advice it appears that the company have no assets and currently has a proposal to strike off on Companies House.</p>	<p>Operational & Non-Operational Properties</p>
<p>£26,156.82</p>	<p>Tudor Retail Group Limited – 23rd October 2020 to 19th May 2022</p> <p>Following a failure to pay tax due on the property, the Council sought court action and subsequently progressed the case to an enforcement agent to collect on our behalf. The enforcement agent has been unsuccessful with such attempts to collect, and the debt was returned to the Council for further action, with notification that the company had ceased trading.</p> <p>Following a review, it was determined that the company has been dissolved and therefore no legal entity remains for the Council to collect the debt from and consequently seek approval for the removal of the debt.</p>	<p>Business Rates</p>
<p>£26,102.72</p>	<p>Shanaj Ltd – 24 September 2020 to 31 December 2021</p> <p>Company responsible for Non-Domestic Rate at the property for a 15-month period, during which no rate has been received. The Council have served the statutory notices as appropriate to the company and commenced court action to obtain a liability order against the company for non-payment.</p> <p>The Council have sought to recover the outstanding debt via an enforcement agent, however, attempts by the agent have also proven to be unsuccessful.</p> <p>Company have now been dissolved on 11 April 2023 and therefore there is no prospect of collection.</p>	<p>Business Rates</p>
<p>£25,686.20</p>	<p>Shanaj Ltd – 24 September 2020 to 31 December 2021</p> <p>Company responsible for Council Tax at four properties (all above the Non-Domestic property) as lease to trade at Non-Domestic property for the entire building. Each property has been vacant and subject to a 300% premium due to the application of the long-term empty property premium. The addition of the premium has resulted in a larger than normal charge for this 15-month period at each address of £6,421.55.</p> <p>The Council have served the statutory notices as appropriate to the company and commenced court action to obtain a liability order against the company for non-payment.</p> <p>The Council have sought to recover the outstanding debt via an enforcement agent, however, attempts by the agent have also proven to be unsuccessful.</p> <p>Company have now been dissolved on 11 April 2023 and therefore there is no prospect of collection.</p>	<p>Council Tax</p>