



National Audit Office

The UK's independent public spending
watchdog

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Reference FOI-1587

Date 20 February 2023

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NET ZERO IN ENGLAND

Thank you for your request of 16 January 2023 for information in relation to the NAO report on 'Local government and net zero in England.'

You wrote, "The Research Group on the Sociology of Public Finances and Debt of the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies is interested in acquiring the raw data from figure 7 (p. 40) of the report 'Local government and net zero in England' by Gareth Davies (<https://www.nao.org.uk/reports/local-government-and-net-zero-in-england>). Regarding this figure we would like to ask the following questions: Is it possible for us to gain access to the raw data of figure 7? Does this data also provide a finer geographical breakdown? The figure only provides information on the level of counties and combined authorities. We are also interested in data for the level of districts."

Your request is being handled under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA). We can confirm that we hold information in scope of your request, and we have supplied the data in an excel spreadsheet enclosed with this letter. Column F in the spreadsheet shows funding consolidated to upper tier per head (£) which is the data we present in Figure 7 of the report. We have also included funding data for all the levels of local authority that we have information for (the type of council is indicated in column B). Please be aware that district councils only occur in areas with a two-tier system of local government, and so do not cover the whole of England (see for example page 8 of [Local Government Association - A quick guide to local government](#)).

Annex A sets out the steps you may wish to take if you are not satisfied with the way we have handled your request for information under the FOIA.

Yours sincerely,

NAO FOI Team

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Cert No. 8835

ISO 14001

Annex A

Statement of Policy

Our policy is to respond to requests made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as helpfully and promptly as possible, having regard to the principles set out in the Act. I therefore hope you are happy with the way we have handled your request. If you are not, then you should take the following steps.

In the first instance, within 40 working days, write to the National Audit Office Freedom of Information (FOI) Team at FOI.requests@nao.org.uk or by post to:

FOI Team, Green 2, National Audit Office, 157-197 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 9SP

The Head of FOI will arrange a review, which will be conducted by a senior member of staff who was not involved in decisions relating to your original request. Once the review has been completed, we will write informing you of the outcome.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: <https://ico.org.uk/> or Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF.