

## Recovery – what if I don't pay?

### Recovery of Business Rates

If you fail to pay your instalments by the date given on your bill, recovery action will commence in accordance with the Government regulations.

A reminder notice will be sent if payment is overdue. If you do not pay the amount in as stated on the reminder, a summons will be issued for you to appear in the Magistrates Court.

If you do not pay in full before the hearing, the council will apply for a Liability Order.

A Liability Order is a document issued by the court which gives the council the right to:

- Use Enforcement Agents to obtain payment
- Start bankruptcy proceedings
- Ask the Magistrates Court to commit a person to prison

You may, however, contact the council to agree repayment of the debt in instalments.

In the event of default, the council will pursue one of the actions detailed above.

In some cases, the council may opt to secure the debt against your property, and apply to the County Court for a Charging Order.

### Court costs

By law, costs are payable when a Liability Order is obtained. The only way to stop the council from asking for a Liability Order is to pay the full amount before the hearing. At the point of issuing the summons, the costs are £60.00 and if a Liability Order is granted, a further £30.00.

Even when an arrangement is made, the Council will still obtain a Liability Order, but we will not take any further action as long as you keep to the arrangement we have made with you.

Further recovery action such as insolvency and Charging Orders are also subject to fees.

### Enforcement Agents

The council employs Enforcement Agents to recover unpaid Business Rates.

Please click on the link below to visit the council's Enforcement Agency's website:

<http://www.arpenforcementagency.co.uk/>



### Difficulty paying

If you are having difficulty paying, please contact us at the Business Rates office and we can try to come to a repayment arrangement with you.

Email: [ndr@angliarevenues.gov.uk](mailto:ndr@angliarevenues.gov.uk) Tel: (01842) 756568