East Lothian Council

FOI Ref: 2018/072(13152)

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act to request the following information in relation to your public library service.

1. How many penalties (cash fines) have you issued?

Unfortunately, East Lothian Council (ELC) is unable to determine this figure from its reporting system. In view of this, under Section 17(1)(b) of the Act, I must formally advise you that ELC has been unable to comply with your request as the information you require is not held.

2. What is the total value of these penalties?

| | Fines Collected | Fines Waived |
|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 2013/14 | 19,027.52 | 6,212.62 |
| 2014/15 | 17,525.95 | 4,879.38 |
| 2015/16 | 13,978.08 | 6,362.43 |
| 2016/17 | 10,809.02 | 2,680.20 |
| 2017/18 (to end January) | 9,303.53 | 3,817.47 |

3. What is the value of unpaid penalties?

ELC is unable to provide an annual breakdown, however, the current amount outstanding in fines is \pounds 19,331.70. The value of the items currently outstanding is \pounds 7,300.

The associated overdue charge is automatically applied on removal of the item from the borrower record so the actual amount outstanding in fines is higher than that shown above.

4. How many books and other loan items have you issued?

| 2013/14 | 506,368 |
|--------------------------|---------|
| 2014/15 | 439,450 |
| 2015/16 | 402,818 |
| 2016/17 | 396,455 |
| 2017/18 (to end January) | 311,342 |

Please present the data as annual figures for each of the last five years.