From October 2019 Sandwell Council will no longer publish information relating to outstanding credits and write-ons on Business Rates accounts following a decision notice issued by the Information Commissioners Office. SMBC now believes that this information is exempt under Section 31(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act. This exemption applies because the release of this information would prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. Due to limited means of personal verification it is possible that credits could be claimed fraudulently and the council has therefore concluded that disclosure of this information into the public domain is no longer in the public interest.