



South Somerset District Council

Freedom of Information Act (2000) & Environmental Information Regulation (2004)

Information Request Reference Number: 445

RESPONSE

You have asked South Somerset District Council for the following information:-

Kindly confirm all loans made by SSDC to SSDC Opium Power Ltd, the dates (month and year) for each loan, the value to SSDC and whether they have been repaid or not.

To date there has been a total of £14,516,705 lent by South Somerset District Council to SSDC Opium Power Ltd. The loans have been paid in instalments to reflect the project rollout relating to:

- i) Phase 1 - the original 25 MW scheme - paid between May 2018 and February 2020**
- ii) the temporary VAT liability on the importation of the batteries as a result of the changing advice of HR Revenue and Customs (initial advice being no VAT liability to be paid and then changed to VAT to be paid on importation and then reclaimed) - paid in December 2018**
- iii) Phase 2 - the additional 5 MW scheme agreed - paid between August 2019 and February 2020**

Of the £14,516,705 loaned, £1,351,650 has been repaid to date.

For completeness, SSDC continues to earn a commercial interest rate on the outstanding loan. Phase 1 of the Battery Energy Storage Scheme is operational and therefore earning income, however, repayment of the loan and interest is in arrears.

Please review the information on our website regarding the [re-use of Public Sector Information](#).