

Owner of 8K bitcoin lost in landfill threatens to bankrupt local council

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A Welsh bitcoin investor who accidentally lost 8,000 bitcoin a decade ago after throwing the hard drive into the trash is now threatening to sue the local council overseeing the landfill it's in and potentially bankrupt them, as he seeks to win \$557 million in legal fees.

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The proposed lawsuit aims to secure £446 million (\$557 million) in damages, a value that matches the highest recorded price of his lost bitcoin. By asking for this amount, Howells is threatening to bankrupt NCC, saying that the recently declared bankrupt Birmingham City Council would “not be the only Labour-run council to go bankrupt” this year.

“I’ve tried everything I can for 10 years, they didn’t want to play ball, so now we have to go down the legal route,” he said.

In the open letter he sent to the council on September 4, Howells demanded they let him begin his landfill excavation work by September 18. He’s also asking for a judicial review into the lawfulness of the council’s decisions throughout the bitcoin landfill ordeal.

Bitcoin landfill dig? Still a no from the council

James lost the BTC in 2013 after cleaning out his old office and throwing his bitcoin cold wallet into the trash. The 8,000 bitcoin was worth £446 million at its highest and roughly £166 million (\$207 million) today.

For 10 years the council has not budged on its position, refusing Howells pleas to recover the lost bitcoin which the council says “may or may not be in our landfill site.”

A spokesperson said, “The council has told Mr. Howells multiple times that excavation is not possible under our environmental permit, and that work of that nature would have a huge negative environmental impact on the surrounding area.”

“We will be offering no further comments on this issue as it takes up

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