



**Information Governance Team**

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08 July 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)  
Request ID: FOI722535451**

Thank you for your request for information relating to Legal costs incurred by SEND tribunals.

You have requested the following information:

**I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act regarding the legal costs incurred by your authority in relation to SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) tribunals.**

**Specifically, I would like to know:**

**1. The number of SEND appeals lodged against the council in each of the financial years 2018/19, 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25.**

2018/19 – 26  
2022/23 60  
2023/24 – 90  
2024/25 121

**2. The number of SEND appeals that proceeded to a full tribunal hearing in each of the financial years 2018/19, 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25.**

2018/19 – 2  
2022/23 6  
2023/24 – 6  
2024/25 15

**3. Of those appeals, in the financial years 2018/19, 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25, how many were upheld, partially upheld or dismissed?**

Upheld

2018/19 1  
2022/23 – 3  
2023/24 5  
2024/25 – 11

Partially Upheld

2018/19 – 0  
2022/23 2  
2023/24 – 0  
2024/25 3

Dismissed

2018/19 1  
2022/23 – 1  
2023/24 1  
2024/25 – 1

**4. What was the total amount spent on legal fees for SEND tribunal cases for each of the financial years 2018/19, 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25? Please include all associated costs, such as external legal counsel, getting expert witnesses and administrative expenses.**

In response to Question 4, we confirm we do not hold this information, and we are informing you as per Section 1(1) of the Act. The total expenditure on legal fees forms a part of the overall role of a variety of staff. Therefore, a separate account of time spent relating to tribunals is not recorded on our system.

The supply of information in response to a FOI request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: [FOI/EIR Disclosure Log](#), [Publication Scheme](#), [Facts about Coventry](#) and [Open Data](#) that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: [infogov@coventry.gov.uk](mailto:infogov@coventry.gov.uk)

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email [icocasework@ico.org.uk](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk).

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

**Information Governance**