

Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) Request ID: FOI760646009

Thank you for your request for information relating to ASD Tribunal Expenditure.

You have requested the following information:

- 1. The total amount spent by the council on legal representation, expert witnesses, tribunal fees, settlements, and any other related costs associated with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) tribunal cases involving Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) for each of the past five financial years (2020/21 to 2024/25).
- 2. Where available, please provide a breakdown by category:
- Legal costs
- Expert or specialist assessment costs
- Internal staffing costs (if recorded separately)
- Compensation or settlement payments

We do not hold some of the requested information and are advising you as per section 1(1) of the Act. Such costs form a part of the overall role of a variety of staff and expenditure incurred.

A separate account of spend relating specifically to tribunal cases involving Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is also not recorded.

In terms of locating costs that are held, we have estimated that the cost of meeting your request would exceed the cost limit of £450 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees Regulations 2004). This represents the estimated cost of one person

spending 18 hours or more, in determining whether the information is held, locating, retrieving and extracting it.

The costs are not held in a reportable format but contained in over 450 separate files. We estimate a manual trawl will exceed 18 hours work and therefore your request has been refused under section 12(2) of the Act.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: <u>FOI/EIR Disclosure Log</u>, <u>Publication Scheme</u>, <u>Facts about Coventry</u> and <u>Open Data</u> 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: infoqov@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.

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

Yours faithfully

Information Governance