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Reference: 54777017
Email:
kcc.information@email.icasework.com
Date: 7 February 2025

Dear ###

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000 relating to SEND Appeals. Please see the response provided below:

For each of the last 5 financial years (2020-22, 2021-22, 2022-3, 2023-24, 2024-25 to date) the total amount in legal costs your local authority have spent on defending SEND tribunal appeals.

Please see below a table which holds the total amount in legal costs Kent County Council have spent on SEND tribunal appeals.

Year	Total Amount in Legal Costs
2022-21	£229,182,275
2021-22	£253,781,535
2022-23	£313,329,729
2023-24	£349,031,961

Unfortunately, Kent County Council cannot provide any information regarding the 2024-25 financial year as this has not finished as of the current date.

If you are unhappy with this response, and believe KCC has not complied with legislation, you have 40 working days from the date of this response to ask for a review. You can do this by following our complaints process; details can be found at this link <https://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/complaints-and-compliments#tab-10> on our website. Please quote the reference number 54777017 in any future communications.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you can appeal to the Information Commissioner, who oversees compliance with both the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Environmental Information Regulations 2004. Details of what you need to do, should you wish to pursue this course of action, are available from the Information Commissioner's website <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>, or you can phone the ICO Helpline on 0303 123 1113.

Yours sincerely,

Olivia Crawford
Information Access Officer
Chief Executive's Department