



nadia.lincoln@nliveradio.com

5 March 2026

Dear Nadia Lincoln,

**Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 - FOI-26-008325**

Thank you for your request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 detailed below which we received on 13 February 2026. Please find our response below in bold:

*1. How many SEND appeals were lodged against the council in the same years during each of the following financial years 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26*

**2022 – 2023 = The requested information is not held by WNC as stipulated under Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Legal Services did not come back in-house until May 2023. Prior to this date this was dealt with by [Pathfinder Legal Services Ltd](#).**

**2023 – 2024 = 158**

**2024 – 2025 = 191**

**2025 – 2026 = 277 (up to 27/1/26)**

*2. Of those appeals, in the same years, how many did the tribunal rule in favour of the council / against the council / the council conceded prior to a formal tribunal hearing taking place / the appellant decided to withdraw?*

	<b>Appeals withdrawn by LA</b>	<b>Upheld in full</b>	<b>Upheld in part</b>	<b>Dismissed</b>
<b>2022 - 2023</b>	*	*	*	*
<b>2023 - 2024</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2024 - 2025</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>2025 - 2026</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>

**\*Please note we only recorded these from May 2023 when this work came back**

**in house**

3. *What was the total council spend on SEND tribunal cases during each of the above years? Please include all associated costs.*

**2022 – 2023 = £305,115.41**

**2023 – 2024 = £293,665.55**

**2024 – 2025 = £227,719**

**2025 – 2026 = £256,811.94 (up to 27/1/26)**

4. *How much compensation or legal costs were paid to parents in the above cases?*

**This information is not available as the ledger does not categorise tribunal cases**

You may re-use the information under the terms of an [Open Government Licence](#).

I trust the above is helpful, however if you are dissatisfied with the way we have handled your enquiry or you are unhappy with the response provided, you have the right to request an internal review. You can do this by emailing [datarequests@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:datarequests@westnorthants.gov.uk). Please quote your reference number.

Please note a request for an internal review should be submitted no later than 40 working days from the date of receipt of this response. The Council is not obliged to accept a request for an internal review beyond this timeframe. A full response to your request for a review will be provided within 20 working days.

If you remain dissatisfied with the Council's internal review, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner (ICO). It is recommended that you contact them no later 3 months from the date of our final response, using the contact details below:

[www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints](http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints)

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

**Information Governance Officer**