



**REQUEST 17984**

FOI request relating to the amount that your council has spent on SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities).

Please provide, for each financial year from 2014-15 to 2024-25 inclusive, broken down by year, the gross expenditure that your council has spent on:

1. SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities), defined as services and support for children and young people up to the age of 25 with special educational needs or disabilities. This includes Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans, specialist educational provision, SEND transport, and any other direct support provided by the council.
2. Please provide, for the respective years, the gross expenditure on SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) broken down by category, including but not limited to:
  - a. Specialist Educational Placements- Funding for places at special schools, including independent or out-of-county schools.
  - b. Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan Support- Support costs linked directly to EHC plans (e.g., specialist teaching assistants).
  - c. SEND Transport- Transport for children and young people with SEND to schools or colleges.
  - d. Additional Support in Mainstream Settings- Funding to help mainstream schools support pupils with additional needs (e.g., SENCOs, specialist teaching).
  - e. Specialist Support Services- Therapists (e.g., speech and language therapy, occupational therapy), specialist teachers, or educational psychologists.
  - f. Short Breaks/Respite Care- Services for families of children with SEND to give carers a break.
  - g. Transition Services- Support for young people with SEND moving into adulthood (often overlaps with adult social care).
  - h. Early Years SEND Support- Targeted support for children with SEND in nurseries or early years settings.

**RESPONSE**

Please see attached spreadsheet divided into the relevant columns.

The 24/25 accounts are still in the process of being finalised.

The information for the years 2020/21 to 2023/24 is provided in the accompanying a spreadsheet.

For the earlier years we do not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 relieves a public authority from the obligation to comply with a request for information where the estimated time required to locate, review and extract the information exceeds a certain threshold which equates to 18 hours. To provide the information for the years 2020/21 to 2023/24 has taken 14 hours and a significant amount of work would be required to locate, review and extract the earlier years, exceeding 18 hours in total. As the threshold would be easily exceeded, section 12 applies and the remaining years of data will not be provided.

- i. Other Advisory or Inclusion Services- Local teams providing advice to schools on inclusion strategies.

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| <p>3. The total amount in the respective years received from central government to fulfil these obligations.</p> <p>4. Total council expenditure from 2014-15 to 2024-25 inclusive, broken down by year.</p> | <p>3. The funding for the specified expenditure cuts across the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) that the Council receives and its own resources derived from Council tax receipts, business rates, fees and charges and specific Section 31 grants from Central Government. The High Needs Block of the DSG covers more areas than specified here and so giving the annual totals of that would also not be an accurate answer to the question.</p> <p>4. The Council's statement of accounts for 2014/15 to 2023/24 are published on the Council's website and provide a detailed breakdown of the Council's annual expenditure.</p> |
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