

Dear

I am writing to you in reply to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to Nottinghamshire County Council. I have the following information.

The costs to the authority (Local Education Authority) for handling and contesting appeals to the Special Educational Needs Tribunal for the academic years 2015/2016, 2016/2017 and 2017/2018. No specific budget is allocated to undertakings this work which is undertaken by EHCP Senior Case Workers, supported by an Educational Psychologist. I have therefore extracted the actual costs of the two Senior Case Worker at Band B for the period September 2016 to March 2018. The cost per financial year is;

2016 – 2017: £56,385 (September 16 to March 17 only)

2017 – 2018: £99,024

The costs of an Educational Psychologist to support this work is £40,517 per annum. This would mean the total cost on SENDIST casework, for the period of time we can accurately cost is;

2016 – 2017: £56,385 (September 16 to March 17 only)

2017 – 2018: £140,741

It should be noted however that both the Senior Case Workers and EP also have other duties and that not all of their time is therefore spent undertaking SENDIST work.

In terms of Mediation and Tribunal cost, I am able to provide the following information:

2017-18	2018-19
Kids: £27745.00	Kids: £22375.00
Global: £8160.00	Global: £5232.00
Together Trust: £9100.00	Together Trust: £8320.00

There is no specific amount of money allocated to internal counsel (or Legal Services) for SENDIST casework. SENDIST casework is primarily undertaken by the EHCP case work team with the occasional use of external Counsel on complex/costly cases. The local authority's Legal Services will provide general advice as and when requested by the EHCP case work team subject to capacity/specialism, but there is no any separate charge for such advice.

If you have any queries or concerns then please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to the Team Manager, Complaints and Information Team, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP or e-mail foi@nottscc.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

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