

Freedom of Information – Response – 26560

I wish to make a freedom of information request. Please provide the following information for the years 2018 to 2024 and, if possible as of June 2025:

1) The amount allocated by your local authority, whether from direct council budget or central government departments, on adult ESOL (English Speakers of Other Languages) Suffolk County Council (SCC)'s Directorate for Public Health and Communities (PH&C) – Reply:

The amount allocated to ESOL provision from central government departments for those arriving in Suffolk via a refugee resettlement scheme was:

Year of Arrival	Arrivals	£ESOL
2018	15	£ 12,750.00
2019	5	£ 4,250.00
2020	2	£ 1,700.00
2021	35	£ 29,750.00
2022	18	£ 15,300.00
2023	22	£ 18,700.00
2024	24	£ 20,400.00
2025	7	£ 5,950.00
Total	128	£ 108,800.00

The amount of funding for Hong Kong BNO was claimed from central government as it was needed and passed on to ESOL providers, therefore Suffolk County Council (SCC) did not allocate funding specifically for this cohort. This arrangement changed in 2025 because of new legislation and SCC no longer claims this funding.

Homes for Ukraine Scheme: No set amount has been allocated from central government.

SCC's Directorate for Adult Social Care (ASC)– Reply:

Between 2022 and 2023, the Developing Skills in Health and Social Care project incurred a total spend of £12,083. This covered tutor costs for delivering ESOL training. The funding was provided via the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) through a European Social Fund (ESF) grant. Please note that this figure represents overall expenditure on Functional Skills, of which ESOL was a component. We do not hold separate figures for ESOL alone.

2) The number of participants on ESOL courses in your local authority area.

PH&C – Reply:

Suffolk County Council is not informed about all participants accessing ESOL across the county and therefore does not hold this information.

ASC – Reply:

Due to ESF and DWP reporting requirements, we do not have a separate figure for participants who completed ESOL, as this was recorded under the broader Functional Skills English category. In total, 34 participants undertook Functional Skills English during this period.