

Freedom of Information – Response – 27009

I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I would like to request information relating to instances where Suffolk County Council has been barred from participating in proceedings before the First-tier Tribunal (Special Educational Needs and Disability).

For the last three financial years (2022–23, 2023–24 and 2024–25), and also for the current year 2025-26, please provide:

1. The number of occasions on which Suffolk County Council has been barred from participating in SEND Tribunal proceedings relating to EHCPs, whether wholly or in part, by order of the Tribunal.

Suffolk County Council do not hold any data on the number of occasions we have been barred from participating in SEND Tribunal proceedings.

2. For each such case, if held in recorded form:

- *the year in which the order was made,*
- *the reason given by the Tribunal for the barring order, and*
- *whether the case related to:*
 - *refusal to assess,*
 - *refusal to issue,*
 - *contents of an EHCP, or*
 - *placement.*

N/A

3. Any internal guidance, briefing notes, or training materials produced within the last three years relating to:

- *compliance with Tribunal directions, and/or*
- *steps taken by the authority to prevent barring orders being made in SEND Tribunal cases.*

Suffolk County Council do not hold any internal guidance, briefing notes or training materials that were provided within the last 3 years relating to compliance with Tribunal directions and/or steps taken to prevent barring orders being made in SEND Tribunal cases.