



Further to your information request FOI/EIR 25/26-126, please find your question and our response below.

**Request:**

This is a freedom of information request surrounding the Prevent Strategy programme in the 2024-25, 2023-24, 2022-23, 2021-22 and 2020-21 financial years.

Please provide me with the following:

- How much did your organisation receive in Prevent Strategy programme funding in each of the following financial years: 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25?
- A breakdown of where this money was spent by your organisation in each of the following financial years: 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25.
- Which council department is responsible for administering Prevent Strategy spending (please list all applicable).

By '*where this money was spent*' please provide the organisation names that you gave money to, how much each received and what reasons/projects they were given it for.

**Response:**

- Information Refused Under Sections 24(1), 31(1)(a), 38(1) and 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000
- Information Refused Under Sections 24(1), 31(1)(a), 38(1) and 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000
- Communities & Partnerships

East Cambridgeshire District Council does not provide information on Prevent Strategy funding. This information is exempt from disclosure under sections 24(1), 31(1)(a), 38(1) and 43(2) of the FOIA. These sections of the Act pertain to national security, law enforcement, health and safety, and commercial interests respectively and are qualified exemptions, which require the consideration of the Public Interest Test.

**Section 24(1)**

*National security*

*(1) Information which does not fall within section 23(1) is exempt information if exemption from section 1(1)(b) is required for the purpose of safeguarding national security.*

**Section 31(1)(a)**

*Law enforcement.*

*(1) Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 30 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice—*

*(a) the prevention or detection of crime.*

**Section 38(1)**

*38 Health and safety*

*(1) Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to—*

*(a) endanger the physical or mental health of any individual, or*

*(b) endanger the safety of any individual.*

## **Section 43(2)**

### ***Commercial Interests***

*(2) Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).*

### **Considerations in favour of withholding the information**

Releasing a breakdown of the amount of funding given to a Prevent area for the years specified, could be used, alongside other FOIs, to build up a detailed picture or 'threat map' of how the Prevent resources are allocated. There is a risk that knowledge of how Prevent resources are allocated could be exploited to better target radicalisation efforts. This may impact negatively on the delivery of Prevent, and on the range of activities deployed to prevent terrorism. This includes the ability to disrupt those who would promote terrorism, protect susceptible individuals from recruitment and dissuade those who have been recruited.

These factors would serve to undermine the effectiveness of the Government's counterterrorism strategy and hence weaken and prejudice the national security of the UK.

The disclosure of this information could prejudice law enforcement by deterring legitimate activities to prevent terrorism and thereby jeopardising the Government's efforts to prevent terrorism and terrorist crime.

In addition, the release of this information could potentially put the well-being, and physical safety of individuals and their families at risk. Safeguarding the health and safety of UK citizens is of paramount importance.

Moreover, the disclosure of this information could prejudice the commercial interests of the organisations involved. There is genuine concern that financial and reputational harm would arise should such information to be made public. The result could cause not only these organisations, but other organisations to be unwilling to become involved in the delivery of Prevent – where the possibility exists that they might be exposed to public scrutiny should their involvement be revealed.

This concludes your request FOI/EIR 25/26-126.

If information has been refused, please treat this as a Refusal Notice for the purposes of the Act.

If you disagree with our decision or are otherwise unhappy with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you may approach [foi@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:foi@eastcambs.gov.uk) and request a review. A request for review must be made in no more than 40 working days from the date of this email.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under s50 of the Freedom of Information Act to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.