



Further to your information request FOI/EIR 23/24-425, please find your question and our response below.

Request:

Can you please provide the number of times the authority has refunded planning application fees to developers who waited more than 26 weeks for a decision without other agreements or exemptions being put in place – as per the Government’s 2013 implementation of these rules.

In a digital table format, such as excel or pdf, can you provide the total number of payments returned, and every instance between January 2013 and December 2023 of money being returned to developers, the date of the return and the amount of money returned (£).

Can the authority also provide, for the same time period, the number of planning applications that have waited more than 26 weeks for a decision, without agreements in place.

Response:

The requirement to refund a planning fee after 26 weeks was introduced in The Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications, Deemed Applications, Requests and Site Visits) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 via Statutory Instrument 2013 No. 2153. This SI came into force on 1st October 2013 and therefore have adjusted the timeframe to reflect this.

We have returned one fee during the period outlined in this request.

11/02/2022	£132
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During the period outlined in this request an additional 34 applications were decided outside of the 26 week period without an agreed extension of time or refund being completed.

This concludes your request FOI/EIR 23/24-425.

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@eastcambbs.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.