

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority  
Pathfinder House  
St Marys Street, Huntingdon  
PE29 3TN

21<sup>st</sup> January 2025

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

**Re: Freedom of Information request ref CA375**

Thank you for your request for information which was received on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2025.

***Request***

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

I am interested in the demand for English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses in your region and am requesting data regarding waiting lists of prospective learners.

Could you please provide the following information:

1. The total number of people registered on a waiting list to enrol onto an ESOL course from the 2017/18 academic year to (and including) 2024/25.
2. The total number of people enrolled on an ESOL course at the start of each enrolment period per academic year from the 2017/18 academic year to (and including) 2024/25.

Please provide a breakdown of the figures by provider type: general further education college, independent training provider, local authority, online, sixth-form college, other, third sector.

ESOL course refers to all six different levels or grades: Pre-Entry, Entry 1, Entry 2, Entry 3, Level 1 and Level 2. Please provide waiting list and enrolment figures for each level across each academic year.

To clarify, some training providers have multiple enrolment dates during one academic year. In question 2, I am asking for the total number of new learners enrolled onto a course at each enrolment period, not the accumulative total figure.

Please provide the answers in an excel spreadsheet.

Please let me know if you require any further explanation.

As this is an FOI, I expect to receive the response within 20 working days. If the decision is made to withhold some of this information using exemptions in the Act, I would be grateful if you could please inform me of that fact and cite the exemptions used.

## Response

Details of the data (provided in the table below as requested):

- Taken from R05 for 24/25 and taken from R14 for previous academic years.
- We do not have the data for 17/18 or 18/19 as this was before we started devolution.
- Looks at starts in each academic year.
- The data shows when a learner first started an ESOL aim in each academic year. For example, if they started three ESOL aims in an academic year, one in November, one in January and one in March, the data would only be counted once against the earliest start date, which would be November.
- An ESOL aim has been identified by using the Basic Skills Type of 'ESOL' from the ESFA downloadable databases and then linking this to the learning aims in our occupancy reports.
- There is a different table for each provider type that we have, FE College, ITP and Local Authority.

I hope this information is helpful but 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, you should write to us via our contact us email address: [democratic.services@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk) or write a letter to Complaints, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon, Cambs PE29 3TN within 40 days of the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted via their complaints portal [FOI and EIR complaints | ICO](#) or writing to the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Generally, the ICO will not undertake a review or make a decision on a request until the internal review process has been completed.

Yours sincerely



Sophie Purvis  
**Data Protection and Information Governance Assistant**

### FE Colleges

	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July
24/25	56	973	57	40	22							
23/24	55	916	143	52	32	96	16	48	52	4	0	1
22/23	14	611	174	113	47	175	50	91	49	50	2	0
21/22	6	387	97	60	38	25	17	62	22	41	43	15
20/21	0	262	85	112	31	14	9	5	63	0	4	10
19/20	1	327	36	9	35	111	16	10	0	0	0	0

### Independent Training Provider

	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July
24/25	6	6	14	1	6							
23/24	23	7	2	22	0	19	9	7	15	10	18	3
22/23	0	0	0	0	15	4	4	10	9	5	5	1
21/22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20/21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19/20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### Local Authority

	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July
24/25	0	499	7	41								
23/24	0	409	16	23	13	34	1	0	144	2	0	0
22/23	0	387	8	12	1	62	1	4	5	4	1	0
21/22	0	451	5	10	5	5	8	0	10	5	8	0
20/21	0	307	0	6	0	1	15	16	8	0	0	0
19/20	0	399	13	0	0	19	20	0	0	1	0	0