

### **British Council Fraud Cases 2021-2022**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Allegation</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Financial loss (gross)*</b>
Apr-21	MENA (Middle East & N. Africa)	Staff member claiming incorrect overtime rate	Investigation complete - no fraud identified.	Zero
Apr-21	SSA (Sub Saharan Africa)	Staff member overstayed in hotel without business justification.	Investigation complete - individual resigned prior to disciplinary action taking place	£718
Apr-21	EA (East Asia)	Attempt to buy visa with fake British Council invitation letter	Investigation complete - reported to police	Zero
Apr-21	SA (South Asia)	Allegation of fraud on project	Investigation complete - no fraud identified.	Zero
Apr-21	SSA	Concern re overspend on program	Investigation complete - no fraud identified.	Zero
Apr-21	AME (Americas)	Allegation of partners profiteering by overcharging	Investigation complete - alert sent out	Zero
Apr-21	MENA	Allegation of conflict of interest between staff member and contract with a family member	Contract cancelled resulting in net zero losses. Member of staff concerned exited organisation	Zero
May-21	SSA	Allegation staff member made threats in an attempt to secure additional work	Investigation complete - individual concerned had contract terminated	Zero
May-21	SSA	Concern re integrity of process	Investigation completed - No evidence of fraud identified. Failures of compliance.	Zero
May-21	SA	Allegation of an attempt to pass forged British Council contract as genuine	Investigation complete - no fraud identified.	Zero
May-21	SA	Conflict of interest in allocation of work to staff	Investigation complete - no fraud identified. Compliance issue.	Zero
May-21	SSA	Concern re conflict of interest on single source procurement.	Investigation complete - no fraud identified.	Zero
May-21	SSA	AML concern that a tenant who is renting British Council property is paying rent through a third party	Investigation complete - no fraud identified	Zero
May-21	SSA	Alleged personal use on unofficial British Council credit cards	Investigation complete - no evidence of fraud identified. Compliance issues.	Zero
May-21	SA	Staff member attempting to claim unworked overtime	Investigation complete - members of staff concerned dismissed.	£27

May-21	SSA	Payslip altered in an attempt to obtain a loan from bank	Investigation complete, individual dismissed - no loan provided so losses prevented.	Zero
May-21	SSA	Concern re integrity of process	Investigation completed - no evidence of fraud identified. Failures of compliance.	Zero
Jun-21	EA	Alleged procurement fraud / non-compliance on contract	Investigation complete - No fraud identified. Breach of policy. No losses due to contract being cancelled.	£46,000
Jun-21	MENA	Report that a member of the public offered staff money for confidential material	Investigation complete - reported to police	Zero
Jun-21	SSA	Concern that a staff member has dual employment within British Council	Investigation complete - no fraud identified	Zero
Jun-21	EA	Allegation of expenses fraud	Investigation complete - 4x contracts cancelled.	£4,385
Jun-21	SA	Forged covid result certificate used to justify sick leave	investigation complete - staff member concerned dismissed.	£148
Jun-21	SA	Allegation of procurement fraud on lease of headphones.	Investigation handed over	Zero
Jun-21	EU (European Union)	Theft of money	Investigation complete - failure of compliance	£20
Jun-21	UK (United Kingdom)	Theft of money	Investigation complete – losses recovered	£140
Jun-21	AME	External party offering to remotely take exam for students	Investigation complete – recommendations of control improvements made	Zero
Jun-21	AME	Damage to door resulting from attempted theft	Investigation complete - reported to police	£12,215
Jun-21	SSA	Member of the public reported they were defrauded by a staff member re visa application	Investigation complete - contract cancelled.	Zero
Jun-21	EA	Review of expenses identified dual payment & retention of a wrongful credit by a member of staff	Investigation complete - disciplinary outcome	£3,380
Jun-21	SA	Allegation of fraud on project in relation to budget management and training	Investigation complete – recommendations of control improvements made	£4,442
Jun-21	EA	Report of documents tampered with in transit	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made	Zero

Jun-21	SSA	Allegation staff member deceived candidate out of cash in exchange for promise of placement	investigation complete - no fraud against the British Council	Zero
Jun-21	SA	Conflict of interest in allocation of work to staff	investigation complete - recommendation for control improvements made.	£140
Jul-21	SA	Allegation of nepotism in recruitment process	Investigation complete - no fraud identified.	Zero
Jul-21	SA	Report of nepotism in process of recruitment into a role by member of staff	Investigation complete - disciplinary outcome	Zero
Jul-21	MENA	Stolen/missing laptops	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made	£3,000
Jul-21	MENA	Member of staff involved in exams offering prep course without disclosing conflict	Investigation complete - staff member dismissed	Zero
Jul-21	EU	Alleged procurement fraud involving office move	Investigation complete - compliance failing	Zero
Jul-21	UK	Tax appearing on an invoice for a non-Tax registered company	Investigation complete - no fraud identified.	£6,713
Jul-21	EA	Member of public offering services to circumvent processes	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvement.	Zero
Jul-21	EA	Alleged theft of petty cash	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made	£160
Jul-21	SA	Theft of office equipment	Investigation complete - no theft identified. Recommendations for control improvements made.	Zero
Aug-21	MENA	Theft of cheques	Following investigation, no theft identified.	£4,477
Aug-21	SSA	Partner staff requested payment from candidates	Investigation complete – information shared as appropriate	Zero
Aug-21	SA	Alleged nepotism in staff recruitment	Investigation complete - no fraud identified. Recommendations for control improvements made.	Zero
Aug-21	SA	Alleged corruption in recruitment dating back to 2019	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made	Zero
Aug-21	UK	Allegation of expenses fraud - overclaiming for meals	Investigation complete - no evidence of fraud.	£200

Aug-21	SSA	Allegation of expenses fraud - staff x2 submitting forged receipts	Investigation complete - no fraud identified. Recommendations for control improvements made.	Zero
Aug-21	EA	Theft of items from storeroom	Investigation complete – security advice provided.	£2,183
Aug-21	EA	Allegation of expenses fraud - forged taxi receipts	Investigation complete. - two dismissed. Losses recovered.	£417
Sep-21	SA	Alleged facilitation payment given to law enforcement (historical matter related to 2018-29)	Individual concerned was dismissed	Zero
Sep-21	SSA	Alleged conflict in tendering process	Investigation complete - no evidence of fraud identified. Recommendations for control improvements made.	Zero
Sep-21	SSA	Students reported a staff member did not attend session(s) despite receiving payment.	Investigation complete – disciplinary outcome.	£84
Sep-21	SSA	Allegation that refunds deposited in staff bank accounts	Investigation complete - no fraud identified. Recommendations for control improvements made.	Zero
Sep-21	SA	Stolen mobile phones - left in locker before lockdown	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made.	£515
Sep-21	SSA	Allegation that partner has requested kickback from another partners	Investigation complete - no evidence of fraud identified.	Zero
Sep-21	WE (Wider Europe)	Charge on member of public's credit card showing British Council as merchant	Appears to be a standard card-not-present fraud - payment provider has confirmed merchant is a genuine British Council one	£120
Sep-21	SSA	Loan paid to a staff member breaching policy.	Following investigation, no fraud identified - loan repaid.	£2,186
Sep-21	MENA	Allegation of theft of cash	Investigation complete - no evidence of theft identified. Compliance issue.	Zero
Oct-21	EU	Unauthorised direct debits identified	Investigation complete - control improvements made.	£168
Oct-21	UK	Charge on member of public's prepaid credit card showing British Council as merchant when transaction not with us	Investigation complete - no evidence of fraud against British Council	Zero

Oct-21	AME	Allegation candidates attempting to cheat	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made.	Zero
Oct-21	WE	Allegation candidates attempting to cheat	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made.	Zero
Oct-21	SA	Allegation of fraud where staff member has requested email be sent to bank stating contract will be renewed, which was false.	Investigation complete - individual concerned has had contract terminated	£350
Oct-21	EA	Historical allegation of kickbacks being paid through an agent	Investigation complete - no evidence to confirm any payments were made. Recommendations for control improvements made	Zero
Oct-21	SA	Fake documents being distributed	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made	Zero
Oct-21	SSA	Allegation of fraud where grantee has not refunded unallocated funding	Investigation complete - final report submitted	£17,536
Oct-21	MENA	Allegation staff have been falsely claiming for hours worked	Investigation complete - contract x2 cancelled	£40
Oct-21	SA	Forgery of previous employment history certificate - identified by pre-employment screening	Investigation complete – disciplinary outcome	Zero
Oct-21	EA	Fake documents being distributed	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made	Zero
Oct-21	SA	Charge on member of public's credit card showing British Council as merchant when transaction not with us	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made	Zero
Oct-21	SA	Allegation of a staff member assisting a candidate	Investigation complete – one individual to have contract cancelled.	Zero
Oct-21	SSA	Allegation suggesting a contract was issued without a fair and open process	Investigation complete - performance management issue	Zero
Nov-21	SA	Alleged procurement fraud involving the purchase of laptops	investigation complete - no evidence of fraud identified	Zero
Nov-21	SA	Alleged theft of articles resold to third party	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements	£344

Nov-21	AME	Fake Documents being sold online with a separate verification website	Investigation complete - no evidence of fraud identified. Recommendations for control improvements made.	Zero
Nov-21	SSA	Staff member requested payment from candidate in exchange for assistance	Investigation complete - contract cancelled	Zero
Nov-21	SA	Report that candidates offered a bribe in exchange for score - which was refused	Investigation complete	Zero
Nov-21	UK	Allegation that an NPW who is located in the UK is working elsewhere – breach of contract	Investigation complete - no evidence of fraud identified	Zero
Nov-21	SA	Concerns involving a partner re misuse of funds	Investigation complete - no fraud identified	Zero
Nov-21	SA	Allegation of procurement fraud as over market price	Investigation complete - No fraud identified. Recommendations to improvement of procurement processes made.	£1,380
Nov-21	SA	Employment screening has identified a previous record on an employee	Investigation complete - individual dismissed	Zero
Nov-21	SSA	Potential conflict of interest between member of staff and contractor who provided video services	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made	£5,000
Nov-21	SA	Historical allegation involving a procurement fraud, which is now being considered as part of internal recruitment process	Investigation complete. No fraud identified.	Zero
Nov-21	SA	Missing/stolen documentation	Investigation complete. Recommendations for control improvements made and individual concerned has had contract cancelled.	Zero
Dec-21	AME	Fake letter received by university using British Council logo	Advice provided - alert sent out	Zero
Dec-21	SA	Burglary at residential property where British Council property stolen	Investigation complete. Security advice provided.	£900
Dec-21	SSA	Staff member attempted to use forged British Council payslip to apply for a bank loan	Investigation complete - individual has had contract cancelled.	Zero
Dec-21	SSA	Allegation individual has accessed external payment system using colleague's log-in details	Investigation complete – disciplinary outcome	£148

Dec-21	MENA	Unauthorised use of electronic signature	Investigation complete - disciplinary outcome	Zero
Dec-21	AME	Individual has allegedly taken money from petty cash and other items.	Investigation complete - Recommendations for control improvements made.	Zero
Dec-21	WE	Concern material made available online by staff	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made	Zero
Dec-21	MENA	General report about candidates being able to purchase results online	Investigation complete - control improvements made.	Zero
Jan-22	EA	Request for a bribe made from a Govt. Office	Not related to British Council - personal matter. Reported for reasons of transparency.	Zero
Jan-22	EU	Report of potential overtime fraud	Investigation complete - no evidence of fraud.	Zero
Jan-22	SA	Alleged procurement fraud involving photographic services	Investigation complete - No fraud identified.	Zero
Jan-22	SSA	Allegation of bribes being paid to influence scores	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made	Zero
Jan-22	SA	Alleged nepotism in recruitment process	investigation complete - management advice provided	Zero
Jan-22	SA	Allegation staff offered candidate answers in exchange for cash	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements	Zero
Jan-22	SA	Allegation staff (2) have provided false timesheets	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made	£1,557
Jan-22	WE	Allegation suggesting misuse of donor funds	Investigation complete – no fraud identified.	Zero
Jan-22	UK	Inappropriate use of system logins	Investigation complete – disciplinary outcome	Zero
Jan-22	EU	Review of expenses identified dual payment & retention of a wrongful credit	Investigation complete - individual concerned dismissed.	£1,152
Feb-22	SA	Allegation of nepotism in procurement process to purchase CCTV system	Investigation complete - no fraud identified. Recommendations for control improvements made.	Zero
Feb-22	SA	Allegation of expenses fraud	Investigation complete – no fraud identified.	£216

Feb-22	SA	Alleged nepotism in recruitment	Investigation complete - no evidence of fraud identified	Zero
Feb-22	SSA	Allegation staff member accepted payment to assist candidates	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made, including cancelling of contract.	Zero
Feb-22	SA	Allegation staff member stole a CD containing British Council's intellectual property	Investigating complete - contracted staff cancelled.	Zero
Feb-22	SA	Stolen credit card used to purchase services	Investigation complete – no fraud identified.	Zero
Feb-22	SA	Multiple allegations of fake documents re training and nepotism in appointing staff	Investigations complete - recommendations for control improvements made.	Zero
Feb-22	SSA	Allegation of document manipulation	Investigation complete - disciplinary outcome	Zero
Feb-22	SA	Allegations of conflicts of interest and submission of fake data.	Investigations complete - recommendations for control improvements made.	Zero
Feb-22	SA	Report of alleged mismanagement of attendance of third-party staff	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made.	£8
Feb-22	SA	Allegation that payments resulting from owed leave have been diverted.	Investigation ongoing at time of writing	TBC
Feb-22	SSA	Allegation staff completing answer sheet for candidate after test	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made, including cancelling of contract (x2).	Zero
Mar-22	SA	Bribery request from Govt. Official	Investigations complete - recommendations for control improvements made.	Zero
Mar-22	SA	Theft of personal property	No loss to British Council - personal property.	Zero
Mar-22	SSA	Allegation partner's company stamp stolen to create documents to claim money against British Council	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made.	£643
Mar-22	SA	Concern venue provider(s) claimed tax against British Council when they're allegedly tax exempt	Investigation ongoing at time of writing	TBC
Mar-22	EA	Allegation of potential paper leak	Investigation complete - no evidence of fraud against British Council.	Zero
Mar-22	EU	Payment taken for subscription	Investigation complete - amount was recovered	£30



Mar-22	MENA	Alleged bribe paid between examination centre and staff	Investigation ongoing at time of writing	Zero
Mar-22	MENA	Concern of information provided to enable fraud	Investigation ongoing at time of writing	Zero
Mar-22	MENA	Alleged theft of cash	Following investigation, no loss has been identified - recommendations for control improvements made	Zero
Mar-22	EU	Burglary at office	Investigation complete - reported to police. Security recommendations made.	£100
Mar-22	EU	Theft of 2x cameras	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made	£1,000
Mar-22	MENA	Member of staff provided false Covid test result	Investigation complete – individual concerned left organisation	£50
Mar-22	EA	Ex-member of staff alleged debit was owed by the British Council	Investigation complete - Recommendations for control improvements made.	£2,200
Mar-22	EA	Alleged bribe paid to staff member	Investigation complete - 1x contract cancelled	Zero
Mar-22	MENA	Allegation of malpractice at venue	Investigation ongoing at time of writing	Zero

*\*at time of writing*