

### **British Council Fraud Cases 2023-2024**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Allegation</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Financial Losses (£ gross) *</b>
Apr-23	EU (European Union)	Allegation of lost/stolen laptops	Investigation complete –Recommendations for control improvements made	0
Apr-23	MENA (Middle East & N. Africa)	Allegation that remote access software has been installed to laptops and then alleged assistance to test takers subsequently provided	Investigation complete – no fraud identified. Recommendations for control improvements made	0
Apr-23	SA (South Asia)	Checks revealed fake documents submitted as part of application for contracted staff member	Individual not recruited – investigation complete	0
Apr-23	SA	Allegation that a vendor has approached staff offering payments in exchange for more business	Investigation complete - recommendations for improvements made	0
Apr-23	EA (East Asia)	Allegation that member of staff has used organisational resources for personal use	Investigation complete - individual dismissed	0
Apr-23	SSA (Sub Saharan Africa)	Staff sold British Council laptop	Investigation complete - individual concerned dismissed	926
Apr-23	MENA	Concerns regarding a write-off request for out-of-date schoolbooks	No evidence of fraud – compliance issue.	0
Apr-23	EA	Duplicate payment	Investigation complete – no fraud identified. Recommendations for control improvements made	974
May-23	SA	Alleged exam malpractice	Investigation complete – no fraud identified. Recommendations for control improvements made	0
May-23	SA	Compromised cards used to pay for exams	Investigation complete – no fraud identified. Recommendations for control improvements made	0
May-23	SSA	Stolen British Council mobile phone	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
May-23	SA	Allegation that venue was being used at higher cost including potential collusion	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
May-23	SA	Allegation of fraud involving forged visa	Investigation complete – recommendations for control improvements made. Money recovered from vendor.	11

May-23	EA	Stolen British Council mobile phone	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
May-23	MENA	Remote exam assistance possibly facilitated by test centre	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
May-23	EA	External party contacted staff member asking for sensitive information in exchange for payment	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
May-23	AME (Americas)	English teacher allegedly tried to manipulate wages payment process for own benefit	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
May-23	MENA	Undeclared conflict of interest in recruitment	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
May-23	SSA	Allegation on project where partner has diverted funding to his personal account	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	3,064
May-23	SA	Staff member diverted British Council funds into their own account	Investigation complete - £82k out of £86k recovered	86,000
Jun-23	MENA	Allegations of conflict of interest and procurement concerns/inflated prices with an IT vendor	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Jun-23	SA	Allegation related to exam malpractice	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Jul-23	EA	Visa vendor requested fee for expediated service	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Jul-23	WE (Wider Europe)	Allegation of potential exam malpractice	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	£0
Jul-23	SA	Allegation of programme fraud	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Jul-23	EA	Allegation of expenses fraud	investigation complete - individual dismissed.	2,600
Jul-23	SA	Dismissed staff member approached colleague asking for information	Investigation complete - recommendations for improvements made	0
Jul-23	SSA	Allegation of expenses fraud	Investigation complete - disciplinary outcome	2,500
Jul-23	SSA	Concerns re asset management	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made	4,683
Jul-23	EA	Alleged potential overcharging	Investigation complete – no fraud identified. Recommendations for control improvements made.	0

Jul-23	EU	Theft of staff member's bag which included British Council property	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	98
Jul-23	MENA	Allegations of overcharging and policy breaches	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Jul-23	SA	Bribery allegation	Investigation complete – no fraud identified. Recommendations for control improvements made.	0
Jul-23	EA	Alleged unfair practise regarding internal work allocation	Investigation complete – disciplinary outcome	0
Jul-23	SSC (Shared Service Centre)	Allegation regarding incorrect salary payments	Investigation complete – no fraud identified	0
Aug-23	SA	Alleged invoice fraud by vendor	Investigation complete - recommendations for improvements made	8,000
Aug-23	SSA	Alleged theft of 38 devices - laptops, tablets & phones	Historical offence from 7yrs ago which was reported and investigated at the time	0
Aug-23	EA	Allegation partner staff had leaked exams papers	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Aug-23	SA	Alleged visa fraud	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Aug-23	SA	Allegation of fraud on card spend	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Aug-23	SSC	Staff provided false information to avoid tax liability on a rented property	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Aug-23	SA	Member of staff clocking in/out for exams colleagues - alleged fraud, as times not recorded correctly	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Aug-23	SSA	Issue relating to staff member's external business interests	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Sep-23	SSA	Attempted mandate fraud	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Sep-23	SSA	Allegation made by individual exiting organisation that there is a conflict of interest between a project staff member and vendor	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0

Sep-23	WE	Individual came forward requested verification of forged document	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Sep-23	SSA	Theft of British Council laptop	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	757
Sep-23	MENA	Alleged nepotism in recruitment	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Sep-23	SSA	Possible theft of toner cartridges	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made	2,000
Sep-23	SSC	Theft of British Council laptop	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	881
Oct-23	EU	Theft of British Council laptop	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	650
Oct-23	AME	Allegation partner committed fraud	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Oct-23	SA	Theft of central processing unit from server room at venue	Investigation complete - individual concerned dismissed.	0
Oct-23	EU	Attempt to remove funds from account via a fraudulently set up Direct Debit	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	530
Oct-23	SA	Alleged score manipulation	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Oct-23	SA	Alleged nepotism in recruitment	Investigation complete - recommendations for improvements made	0
Oct-23	EA	Falsification of medical records to enhance leave allowance	Investigation complete - individual dismissed	0
Oct-23	SA	Allegation of bribery/corruption	Investigation complete – no fraud identified. Recommendations for control improvements made	0
Oct-23	EA	Allegation that staff are leaking content	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Oct-23	UK	Alleged nepotism in recruitment	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Oct-23	EA	Allegation bribes were being paid	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0

Nov-23	EA	Fraud related to procurement and theft of British Council mobile phones	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	6,500
Nov-23	SA	Alleged collusion/conflict of interest between staff and vendor re procurement fraud	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Nov-23	EU	Expenses fraud	Investigation complete - recommendations for control improvements made	57
Nov-23	SSA	Alleged conflict of interest	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Nov-23	WE	Alleged exam malpractice	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Nov-23	SSC	Suspected dual employment	Investigation complete - individual dismissed	0
Dec-23	SSA	Allegation a bribe was offered	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Dec-23	SSA	Attempted CEO fraud	Investigation complete - existing systems prevented fraud from taking place	0
Dec-23	EU	Mandate fraud	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	828
Dec-23	MENA	Alleged exams malpractice	Investigation complete - no fraud identified	0
Dec-23	EA	Potential medical insurance claim fraud	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	5,077
Dec-23	EA	Alleged exam malpractice	Investigation complete - individual dismissed.	0
Dec-23	SA	Allegation regarding undeclared gifts	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Dec-23	MENA	Theft of petty cash	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	2,800
Dec-23	EA	Conflict of interest - Contract awarded to vendor where staff as working as contractor	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Dec-23	EA	Missing laptops and IT equipment	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Dec-23	EA	Dual employment by two members of staff	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0

Jan-24	SSA	Allegation of exam malpractice	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Jan-24	SSA	Theft of laptop bag	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	25
Jan-24	SA	False qualification identified as part of employment checks.	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Jan-24	SSA	Theft of three British Council laptops x3 and one British Council mobile phone	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	3,000
Jan-24	SA	Alleged visa fraud	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Jan-24	EA	Alleged fraud in security procurement contracts	Investigation complete - individual dismissed	0
Jan-24	SSA	Alleged forged documents submitted	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Jan-24	SSA	Allegation of tax fraud	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	5,000
Feb-24	MENA	Theft of British Council mobile phone	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	200
Feb-24	SSA	Theft and damage to British Council property	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Feb-24	SSA	Theft of British Council laptop	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	1,000
Feb-24	SSA	Theft of British Council laptop	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	1,240
Feb-24	SSA	Theft of British Council laptop and phone	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	1,240
Feb-24	SA	Theft of British Council laptop	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	1,000
Feb-24	SSA	Bribery offence	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Feb-24	SA	Forged letter produced to support recruitment process	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0

Feb-24	SSA	Theft of British Council laptop	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	1,000
Feb-24	MENA	Theft of British Council laptop	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	900
Feb-24	EU	Theft of British Council laptop	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	1,000
Feb-24	EU	Theft of British Council laptop	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	1,000
Feb-24	SA	Theft of British Council laptop	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	1,000
Feb-24	SA	Allegation relating to the sale of British Council material	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Feb-24	SSA	Theft of British Council laptop	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	1,000
Feb-24	MENA	Expenses fraud	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	223
Feb-24	MENA	Bribery offence	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Feb-24	EU	Alleged attempted money laundering	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Feb-24	UK	Fraud relating to employment conditions	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Mar-24	EA	Theft of British Council laptop	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	1,000
Mar-24	UK	Theft of British Council laptop	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	925
Mar-24	UK	Theft of British Council laptop	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	925
Mar-24	SA	Theft of British Council mobile phone	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	349
Mar-24	SA	Allegation of malpractice in exam	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0

Mar-24	SSA	Staff member misrepresented personal information	Investigation complete - individual dismissed	0
Mar-24	SA	Fake employment letter submitted	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Mar-24	SSC	Irregular payment	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Mar-24	SA	Concern regarding procurement exercise	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Mar-24	SA	Expenses fraud	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	18
Mar-24	SA	Alleged fraud on project	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	0
Mar-24	EU	Theft of British Council laptop	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	1,000
Mar-24	SA	Alleged fraud on project	Investigation complete – recommendations for improvements made	3,064

*\*at time of writing*