

10 January 2023

Request under The Freedom Of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 30 November 2022, in which you requested the following information. For ease I have provided our response after each question:

- 1) The total spend, broken down by financial or calendar year, on external legal advice since April 1, 2020. (I.e. 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23 to date)

External legal spend across nominated legal firms:

2020/21: £49,612.80
2021/22: £62,198.20
2022/23 [to date]: £34,707.50

The majority of the above external legal costs relate to day-to-day routine transactional work, property advice and outlays, and projects.

- 1a) Please break this down by the list of associated cases or disputes, and their individual cost.

The information we hold identifies one dispute against VisitScotland during the given timeframe, *G4S Security Solutions v VisitScotland*. The fee for that work was £421.20 inclusive of VAT.

- 1b) If possible, please provide the final settlement or damages or other court mandated payment cost for any cases during which external legal advice was sought. If it is not possible to link each case to a settlement agreement, please provide the total cost of the settlements or payments.

There were no costs for settlement payments, damages, or other court mandated payment for any cases during the given time frame.

We hope this information is helpful to you. If, however, you are not satisfied with our response or the manner in which we have dealt with your application, you may in the first instance contact our Chief Executive, Malcolm Roughead, whose contact details are set out below:

Mr Malcolm Roughead
Chief Executive
VisitScotland
Ocean Point One
94 Ocean Drive
Edinburgh, EH6 6JH
Telephone: 0131 472 2201

Fax: 0131 472 2223

E-mail: malcolm.roughead@visitscotland.com

If you wish to request a review of your application under either the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 or the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004, your request should be submitted to us in writing, or another permanent format (for example e-mail or voice recording), and be received by us within 40 days of the date of this letter. Any request for a review should also set out, in as much detail as possible, the reasons why you are not satisfied with our response or the manner in which we have dealt with your application.

Yours sincerely,

VisitScotland