

My Ref: IGO/11-8494
Your Ref:
Contact: Aimee Swaap
Email: information.governance@nottinghamcity.gov.uk



Nottingham
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V Gray

Emailed to: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx.xxx

5th May 2011

Dear V Gray

Re: Your request for an internal review of our lack of response to your original request, our reference: IGO/11-8118

Thank you for your email dated 21st March 2011. As the information you requested is not personal or environmental it has been processed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I have now had the opportunity to investigate your request reproduced below for ease of reference and my observations are as follows:

“I would like to know how much the Council has spent outsourcing to either Barristers Chambers or Solicitors at Employment Tribunals for all Council Staff (including Teaching Staff). Any combination of those below, between 1st August 2000 and the 31 October 2010:

- 1) For constructive dismissal**
- 2) Unfair dismissal**
- 3) One (or more) of the various discrimination claims and/or under the Protection from Harassment Act**
- 4) Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998**
- 5) Any other Employment issues, I may have omitted.**

Please name the Solicitors/Barristers that the Council have outsourced to: For example, 2010 Number Name. I would request that you include VAT in the figures Please provide the figures in the following format e.g. 2006 – NUMBER HERE; 2007 – NUMBER HERE; 2008 – NUMBER HERE; 2010 – NUMBER HERE; etc, thus making it easier for one to read and to ensure there is no misunderstandings”.

The information detailed below is based on information held within the Legal Services section and the figures are inclusive of VAT.

As your request to the Council was slightly ambiguous, in that we were unclear whether, when you said “...all Council Staff...”, you are referring to claims brought by



Council staff or representation of Council staff or claims brought against Council staff, we have included each and every type of claim.

Information prior to 2003 has been destroyed in accordance with departmental document and/or information retention and disposal policies. Therefore the only information the Council is able to provide is information from 2003 onwards. Anything dated prior to 2003 cannot be provided in accordance with section 1 of this Act as it is not held by the Authority.

The information that we hold is stored in financial years and so I have asked our legal services colleagues to restructure this information as per your request. Please therefore accept my apologies for the delays encountered in providing you with this information. I have laid out the information below which addresses your request;-

2003 - £58613.53

Firms/Chambers instructed in 2003:-

1. Devereux Chambers;
2. St Philips Chambers;
3. 36 Bedford Row Chambers;
4. Outer Temple Chambers;
5. Cloisters Chambers; and
6. 7 Bedford Row.

2004 - £50450.30

Firms/Chambers instructed in 2004:-

1. 7 Bedford Row Chambers;
2. Outer Temple Chambers;
3. 36 Bedford Row Chambers;
4. Cloisters Chambers;
5. St Philips Chambers; and
6. Devereux Chambers.

2005 - £45650.97

Firms/Chambers instructed in 2005:-

1. Cloisters Chambers;
2. 7 Bedford Row Chambers; and
3. 36 Bedford Row Chambers.

2006 - £29802.01

Firms/Chambers instructed in 2006:-

1. 7 Bedford Row Chambers;
2. 36 Bedford Row Chambers; and
3. Freeth Cartwright LLP.

2007 - £142447.62

Firms/Chambers instructed in 2007:-

1. 36 Bedford Row Chambers;
2. 7 Bedford Row Chambers; and
3. Freeth Cartwright LLP.

2008 - £61688.31

Firms/Chambers instructed in 2008:-

1. 7 Bedford Row Chambers;

2. Freeth Cartwright LLP; and
3. 36 Bedford Row Chambers.

2009 - £72792.10

Firms/Chambers instructed in 2009:-

1. Freeth Cartwright LLP;
2. 36 Bedford Row Chambers;
3. St Philips Chambers;
4. 7 Bedford Row Chambers; and
5. No. 5 Chambers.

2010 - £2350.00

Firms/Chambers instructed in 2010:-

1. 7 Bedford Row Chambers.

Please note the above figures are inclusive of V.A.T., as requested. I hope you now find the above information useful.

I accept that we were not able to supply you with this information within the statutory time period laid down within the Act with regards to both your original request and subsequent internal review, and that on that basis we are in breach of section 10(3). On the basis of the above, I therefore find your complaint to be wholly upheld.

Please accept my sincere apologies once more for the delay.

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Yours sincerely

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Pearson
Information Governance Manager
Resources