

Mr John Hyde

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Via email: Request-400799-  
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15 May 2017

Ref: FOI2017/08680

Dear Mr Hyde

**Freedom of Information Act 2000: Fines imposed by the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal (SDT)**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information enquiry of 12 April 2017.

You asked for the following information on matters concerning the amount of fines imposed by Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal (SDT):

- 1. The total amount of fines ordered by the SDT against solicitors in each of the last five years*
- 2. The total amount of fines ordered by the SDT which were collected in each of the last five years*
- 3. As of 31 March 2017, the outstanding amount owed in unpaid fines ordered by the SDT*

I can confirm that HM Treasury holds some of the information within the scope of your request. The responsibility for collecting and enforcing payment of fines imposed by the SDT rests with HM Treasury. Where a Tribunal decision is the subject of an appeal, collection and enforcement of the fine imposed is suspended, pending the outcome of the appeal.

- 1. The total amount of fines ordered by the SDT against solicitors in each of the last five years**

The information covering the entire period requested is not held on a calendar or financial year basis. However, I can advise that over the last five financial years (01 April 2012 to 31 March 2017) fines amounting to £1,918,600 have been imposed.

**2. The total amount of fines ordered by the SDT which were collected in each of the last five years**

The following amounts were collected in each of the last five financial years:

01 April 2012 to 31 March 2013 - £252,289.92  
01 April 2013 to 31 March 2014 - £270,486.54  
01 April 2014 to 31 March 2015 - £194,178.19  
01 April 2015 to 31 March 2016 - £181,552.99  
01 April 2016 to 31 March 2017 - £522,874.10

Total £1,421,381.74

You should note that the amounts collected in a particular year may include fines imposed in that year, as well as fines imposed in earlier periods.

**3. As of 31 March 2017, the outstanding amount owed in unpaid fines ordered by the SDT**

As at 31 March 2017, the amount outstanding was £2,627,913.34.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us. Please quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely



Information Rights Unit

## **Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act 2000**

If you are not happy with this reply, you may request a review by writing to HM Treasury, Information Rights Unit, 3/Red, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ or by emailing us at the address below. Any review request must be made within 2 months of the date of this letter.

Email: [foirequests@hmtreasury.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:foirequests@hmtreasury.gsi.gov.uk)

It would assist our review if you set out which aspects of the reply concern you and why you are dissatisfied.

If you are not content with the outcome of the review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner will not make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by HM Treasury.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

