

Our ref: FOI SRA 0159



The Cube
199 Wharfside Street
Birmingham B1 1RN

DX: 720293 BIRMINGHAM 47
UK 0370 606 2555
Int + 44 (0)121 329 6800
F + 44 (0)121 616 1999
www.sra.org.uk

Eva Wallace

request-369124-c8c87c96@whatdotheyknow.com

24 November 2016

Dear Ms Wallace

Freedom of Information Request – Our Ref: FOI/SRA/0159

Please find below the response to your information request under the Law Society's Freedom of Information Code of Practice ("the Code").

You have requested the following information:

"Can you please provide the hourly rate you charge when you have closed down a firm.

For the last 10 years can you provide a breakdown of a) how many firms you closed down b) the proportion of creditors who have received their money back full c) of those who did not receive their money back in full, the proportion who went on to be compensated by your Compensation Fund?"

Our response:

We are unable to provide you with an 'hourly rate' in regards to intervening in a firm, as we have no such single hourly rate.

During an intervention, a panel intervention agent is appointed and other external contractors are used in the process. Costs are therefore made up of both fixed costs and variable hourly rates. Consequently, the total amount of costs incurred during an intervention will depend on the complexity of the matters and the size of the firm being intervened into. The contractual rates we agree with our individual suppliers for intervention services are commercially sensitive and therefore it would not be appropriate for these rates to be publicly disclosed. We undertake a full tender

process before appointing our intervention panel and the next tender is expected to take place next year.

In regards to the data you have requested for the last 10 years I can confirm the following in response to point a):

Number of Interventions effected	
2006	50
2007	48
2008	71
2009	97
2010	64
2011	62
2012	37
2013	47
2014	53
2015	40
2016 (Year to date)	32

We do not pay trade creditors following an intervention, as it is not an administration or liquidation process. An intervened firm's responsibility to creditors will remain with the principals of the firm. Likewise, a trade creditor of the firm would not usually have any claim on the Compensation Fund.

I am therefore unable to provide you with any data for points b) and c) of your request.

I hope the information that i have been able to provide is of help to you. If you have any further queries, you can contact me at the above address or by email at:

SRAInformationCompliance@sra.org.uk

Please remember to quote the reference number **FOI/SRA/0159** in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Charlie Smith
Information Governance Officer
Business Improvement and Quality Assurance
Solicitors Regulation Authority

SRA, The Cube, 199 Wharfside Street, Birmingham B1 1RN Tel: 0370 606 2555
Web: <http://www.sra.org.uk/>