

30th August 2022

Joan Corrigan
[request-884813-43cd20d3@whatdotheyknow.com]

Our ref.: FOI/22/287

Dear Ms Corrigan

RE: Freedom of Information (FOI) request – Legal fees

We refer to your Freedom of Information request which was received by the Western Health and Social Care Trust on 5th August 2022.

In your request you make reference to an Employment Tribunal legal case, quoting reference 16346-19, involving yourself, First Choice Recruitment and Western HSC Trust. You ask that the Trust “*outline in full the amount which has been paid (by WHSCT, tax payers, public money)*” to named solicitors representing WHSCT.

On 17th August 2022, we responded to a similar request about the same case (our ref.: FOI/22/197). Our response remains the same, in that the information you are requesting is not held by the Trust. As advised previously, the Directorate of Legal Services (DLS) is the sole provider of legal services for the public Health and Social Care Sector (HSC) in Northern Ireland and is one of the specialist professional services provided by the Business Services Organisation (BSO). You may wish to consider contacting BSO directly on this matter.

We hope you find this response helpful.

Yours sincerely

(Not signed – issued by email)

Freedom of Information Office
Western Health and Social Care Trust

Freedom of Information: If you are dissatisfied as to how this request has been handled, you have the right to seek a review within the Trust in the first instance. You should write to the FOI Office, Lime Villa, Gransha Park, Clooney Road, Londonderry, BT47 6WJ (foi.request@westerntrust.hscni.net) within two months of the date of this response and your complaint will be considered and a response provided, usually within 20 working days of receipt.

If, after receiving a response, you remain dissatisfied, you can refer your complaint to the Information Commissioner at The Information Commissioner's office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. It is important to note that if you refer any matter to the Information Commissioner, you will need to show evidence of having gone through the Trust's internal review procedure to try to resolve the matter with the Trust in the first instance.