| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information Response Our reference: FOI 23-3195  Responded to: 12 January 2024 |
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Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## All legal fees (amounts - Totals ) and any other fees (amounts - Totals) paid to law firms, solicitors, advocates, QCs & KCs, arbitration services, and arbitrators and legal representatives (identify all who were paid - firm, name, identity, role) by Police Scotland since August 2018 to January 2021 In response to the above information request I have attached, at the end of this letter, a list containing gross payments made to (named) law firms and to the Faculty of Advocates, between 1 August 2018 – 31 December 2020.

I would ask that you note that the figures provided relate to ***all*** categoriesof payments made to law firms. Accordingly, the attached information encompasses payments in respect of compensation, legal fees and outlays – all in relation to firms (and Advocates) instructed by Police Scotland, and firms on the opposing side of a court action or a claim.

I note that your request specifically seeks names of individuals – both solicitors and advocates. To provide some background, when Police Scotland instruct agents on its behalf, or is liable to meet costs in relation to a claim or court action, it is the firm - as opposed to an individual - to whom the sums are due.  Accordingly that information is not held by Police Scotland and in terms of Section 17 of the Act, this letter represents a formal notice that information is not held.

Finally, in relation to advocates, payments are made to the Faculty of Advocates, however, the individual names of advocates instructed to represent the Chief Constable is considered exempt.

In terms of section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I am refusing to provide you with this information.

This information is considered to be exempt in terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (the Act). Section 16 of the Act requires Police Scotland to provide you with a notice which:

(a) States that it holds the information,

(b) States that it is claiming an exemption,

(c) Specifies the exemption in question and

(d) States, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies.

I can confirm that Police Scotland holds the information requested and the exemption that I consider to be applicable to the information requested by is:

**Section 38(1) (b) - Personal Data**

Personal data is defined in Article 4 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) as:

*‘Information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person (“data subject”); an identifiable natural person is one who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name, an identification number, location data, an online identifier or to one or more factors specific to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of that natural person’*

Section 38(2A) of the Act provides that personal data is exempt from disclosure where disclosure would contravene any of the data protection principles set out at Article 5(1) of the GDPR which states that:

*‘Personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject’*

Article 6 of the GDPR goes on to state that processing shall be lawful only if certain conditions are met.

The only potentially applicable condition is set out at Article 6(1)(f) which states: *‘Processing is necessary for the purposes of the legitimate interests pursued by the controller or by a third party, except where such interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject which require protection of personal data.*

Whilst I accept that you may have a legitimate interest with regards the disclosure of this information and that disclosure may well be necessary for that purpose, I am nonetheless of the view that those interests are overridden by the interests or fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subject(s). On that basis, it is my view that disclosure of the information sought would be unlawful.

If you require any further assistance, please contact us quoting the reference above.

You can request a review of this response within the next 40 working days by [email](mailto:foi@scotland.police.uk) or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH). Requests must include the reason for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied following our review response, you can appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) within 6 months - [online](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by [email](mailto:enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info) or by letter (OSIC, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, KY16 9DS).

Following an OSIC appeal, you can appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

This response will be added to our [Disclosure Log](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log) in seven days' time.

Every effort has been taken to ensure our response is as accessible as possible. If you require this response to be provided in an alternative format, please let us know.

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| Total gross AP and BANK payments 1st August 2018- 31st December 2020 | |
| **OFFICIAL** |  |
| **Supplier** | **£** |
| Alexander George & Co | 1640 |
| Anderson Banks | 5972 |
| Anderson Macathur | 20000 |
| Anderson Strathern | 92953 |
| Balfour & Manson | 42906.86 |
| Bannatyne Kirkwood France & Co | 10770 |
| Bdo Llp | 82431.35 |
| Bell Brodie | 860 |
| Bell Russell | 2420 |
| Blackadders | 7172 |
| BLM Law | 631.73 |
| Bonnar Accident Law | 31279.6 |
| Boyles | 150000 |
| Brechin,Tindal,Oatts Solicitors | 12500.88 |
| Brodies LLP | 2440 |
| Bruce Short Solicitors | 240 |
| BTO Solicitors | 50100 |
| Burness Paull Llp | 71554.48 |
| Campbell McCartney | 1500 |
| Campbell Smith | 12500 |
| Carpenters | 33541.9 |
| Clyde & Co | 1832384.42 |
| Conway Accident Law Practice | 30564.5 |
| Corrigall Black | 72 |
| DAC Beachcroft | 13205.51 |
| DallasMcMillan | 650 |
| Dentons UK & Middle east LLP | 14947.2 |
| Digby Brown | 1504136.23 |
| Dla Piper Scotland Llp | 162574.9 |
| Dwf Llp | 57424.8 |
| E Thornton & Co | 17572 |
| Faculty Services Limited | 310268.44 |
| Fergusons | 120 |
| Fleming & Reid | 15929.64 |
| Friends Legal | 13588.16 |
| Gildeas Ltd | 12214.16 |
| Gilson Gray | 26000 |
| Glasgow Law Practice | 340.33 |
| Harper Macleod Llp | 42451.63 |
| Horwich Farrelly | 1274.15 |
| Hunter And Robertson | 571 |
| Irwin Mitchell Solicitors | 19064.4 |
| J C Hughes | 830 |
| Jackson Boyd | 15822.24 |
| Jones Whyte Law | 4835 |
| Kelly & Co | 25712.6 |
| Kennedys | 65491.46 |
| Keoghs | 65.5 |
| Kerr Brown | 97618.16 |
| Killean & Co | 389.57 |
| Kindertons Ltd | 17499.11 |
| Km Law | 27595.5 |
| Lawson Coull | 1000 |
| Ledingham Chalmers Solicitors | 1693227.4 |
| Legal Services Agency Limited | 501 |
| Levy & Mcrae | 105639.93 |
| Linda George Family Law | 1362 |
| Lindsays | 12465.9 |
| Livingstone Brown | 185609.39 |
| Lyons Davidson | 23688.12 |
| Macroberts Llp | 139229.48 |
| Mccluskey Browne Solicitors | 6110 |
| MCCREADY & CO | 180 |
| McIntyre & Co | 72 |
| Mclennan Adam Davis Solicitors | 5593.8 |
| Morton Fraser Macroberts Llp | 608928.94 |
| Motorcycle Law | 39827.7 |
| Murray Snell Ws Solicitors | 1800 |
| New Law Scotland | 19561.95 |
| Parabis Scotland | 8311.75 |
| Paterson Bell Solicitors | 5340 |
| Paul Hannah Solicitors | 700 |
| PBW Law | 1671493.31 |
| R S Vaughan & Co | 489804.16 |
| Reid Cooper Partnership | 372337.54 |
| RTA Law | 24361.2 |
| Russells Gibson & Mccaffrey | 3792 |
| Slater & Gordon | 1085733.57 |
| Stewart Legal | 4094.7 |
| Strata Sols | 1914.49 |
| Thompsons Solicitors | 380159.86 |
| Thorntons Law Llp | 362862.99 |
| Turnbull McCarron | 430 |
| W & As Bruce Solicitors | 420 |
| Watermans Solicitors | 9775.4 |
| **Grand Total** | 12,230,954.99 |