



[Redacted]

Date
23 May 2024

[Redacted]

Post Office
100 Wood Street
London EC2V 9ER

Your Ref:

Classification:
Public

Dear [Redacted],

Freedom of Information Request – FOI2024/00032

We are writing in response to your email received by Post Office Limited (“**Post Office**”) on 8 January, which has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“**FOIA**”). We apologise for the delay in responding to your request.

In your email you have requested the information shown verbatim in bold below:

“Please update the table provided in FOI2022/00296 to show fees incurred in 2022/23.

For context, FOI2022/00296 asked: Fees incurred for Herbert Smith Freehills LLP, Peters and Peters LLP, Womble Bond Dickinson, Lexington Communications, Counsel Team”

We can confirm that Post Office does hold information relating to total costs incurred in 2022/23 and this can be found in the table below.

Adviser	2022/23 (£'000)
Herbert Smith Freehills LLP	47,933
Peters & Peters LLP	6,590
Womble Bond Dickinson	1,322
Lexington Communications	469
Inquiry Counsel Fees (Paid via HSF)	2,088

The above figures are the cost to Post Office relating to a wide range of services provided, and so includes VAT at 9%. The above figures include the law firm's own fees, disbursements (i.e., any other external expert or service provider in relation to the advice) and include irrecoverable VAT at the appropriate rate. Please note counsel are independent, and Post Office pay through Herbert Smith Freehills LLP.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of this response, you do have a right to request an internal review. You can do this by writing to the address above within 40 working days of receipt of this response stating your reasons for your internal review request or alternatively, by emailing information.rights@postoffice.co.uk.

If, having requested an internal review by Post Office, you are still not satisfied with our response you also have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113
www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights Team
information.rights@postoffice.co.uk
<https://corporate.postoffice.co.uk/en/governance/access-to-information/access-to-information/>

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