



[Redacted]

Date
23 May 2024

[Redacted]

Post Office
100 Wood Street
London EC2V 9ER

Your Ref:

Classification:
Public

Dear [Redacted]

Freedom of Information Request – FOI2024/00344

We are writing in response to your email received by Post Office Limited (“**Post Office**”) on 22 February, which has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“**FOIA**”). We apologise for the delay in our response.

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

“This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act Subject FOI request - Post Office Legal Costs

Could you please provide me with the legal cost expenditure by Post Office Ltd between the years of 2017 and 2023 with regarding to the GLO, operational costs of the compensation schemes and the inquiry. A total figure combined is fine and if you could break the spend down by year that would be appreciated.

If you could also send me the legal costs of the horizon shortfall scheme , both the original and the later one . The costs from the start of the scheme to date please”

We can confirm that Post Office does hold the information you have requested.

Legal cost expenditure by Post Office Ltd between the years of 2017 and 2023 with regarding to the GLO

Please see the below shows the legal cost expenditure by Post Office relating to the Group Litigation Order (“GLO”).

Financial Year	Costs (£,000)
2017/18	2,012
2018/19	14,685
2019/20	68,611
2020/21	0
2021/22	0
2022/23	0
2023/24*	0

*unaudited

Please note the legal costs provided are in relation to the Post Office defence at the GLO and includes the GLO settlement of £58,067,600 in 2019/20.

Operational costs of the compensation schemes and the inquiry

Please see the table below showing the operational costs of the compensation schemes (Horizon Shortfall Scheme, Overtaken Convictions, Post Office Review and admin/operation costs across all schemes, including Criminal Cases Review Commission and Suspension Remuneration Review) and the Post Office Horizon IT Inquiry:

Financial Year	Inquiry (£'000)	Compensation Schemes (excludes GLO) (£'000)
2017/18	0	0
2018/19	0	0
2019/20	0	0
2020/21	834	44,650
2021/22	11,778	40,394
2022/23	37,798	47,059
2023/24*	88,609	35,569

*unaudited

You can find out more about the compensation schemes on the Post Office website at the following link:

<https://corporate.postoffice.co.uk/en/horizon-scandal-pages/compensation-schemes-explained/>

Legal costs of the horizon shortfall scheme

Please see the table below showing the legal costs of the Horizon Shortfall Scheme (both for applications pre-October 2022 and for late applications post-October 2022), which, for clarity, was also included in operational costs of compensation schemes in the table above:

Financial Year	Costs (£'000)
2017/18	0
2018/19	0
2019/20	0
2020/21	14,715
2021/22	15,965
2022/23	18,404
2023/24*	9,612

*unaudited

You may also be interested in the latest data on compensation progress and redress, which can be found on the Post Office website at the following link:

<https://corporate.postoffice.co.uk/en/horizon-scandal-pages/latest-data-on-compensation-progress-and-redress/>

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/>

Post Office Limited is committed to protecting your privacy, information about how we do this can be found on our website at www.postoffice.co.uk/privacy