



Our ref: FOI-12/5720

Our E-mail:

foi.staff.cf@legalservices.gsi.gov.uk

8 February 2012

Dear 

RE: YOUR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI) ACT REQUEST

Thank you for your email of 11 January 2012.

In your request you have asked for the following information under the FOI Act:

“Can the LSC supply updated figures for the costs of the Lynette White police corruption case - namely the most recent figures for the amounts submitted by the legal defence teams representing the ten defendants in the trial at Swansea Crown Court which ended abruptly on Dec 1st 2001...and for the teams representing a further 5 defendants whose forthcoming trial was discontinued.”

I can confirm that the Legal Services Commission (LSC) holds the information you have requested.

As you may be aware, the LSC routinely publishes information on its website which we believe may be of wider public interest. In December we published costs to date in the Lynette White case for the trial heard at Swansea Crown Court between July and December 2011. You can view this response in full on our website, at: http://www.legalservices.gov.uk/aboutus/ati/information_released.asp

Since this response was issued further bills have been received, and as at 24 January 2012 the total legal aid defence costs for the Crown Court trial to date in the Lynette White police corruption case are **£9,178,507**. This figure includes the 10 defendants in the 2011 trial as well as the 5 defendants whose trial was due to take place this year.

As requested we have provided the most recent figure available. However please note that this does not represent the final total amount and should not be taken to be a complete picture of the total amount of legal aid granted to the defendants in this trial. Once a case has concluded the solicitors submit their bill to the LSC (usually within three months of the case ending). The bills may be subject to assessment prior

to payment and the amount paid may be appealed by the solicitor. The LSC expects further bills to be submitted in this case.

Right to review

As part of our obligations under the FOI Act, the Commission has an independent review process. If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Legal Director, via the email address shown above.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have a further right of external appeal which can be made to the Information Commissioner who can be contacted at the following address: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future correspondence.

Yours sincerely,

Governance Team
Chief Executive's Office
Legal Services Commission