



Resolution

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August 2023
FOI_6114

The following information was requested on 7 August 2023:

NHSR previously provided the following: [FOI 5534 Top-20-highest-paid-claimant-firms.doc.pdf \(resolution.nhs.uk\)](#)

Which covered :

- *Claimant legal costs for clinical negligence claims, broken down by the top 20 claimant firms, and the number of claims these costs relate to.*

Could you now please provide the equivalent information for the financial year 2022/23.

Our Response

Please find attached the requested information in relation to the top 20 highest paid claimant firms by the sum of claimant costs paid.

Please note: We have recently changed the way we report on our FOIs to align better with our published documents. Streamlining our reporting on FOIs with our annual published reports may mean a variation in snapshot dates. This means this data may not align with previous similar requests and it may not be possible for you to compare this information with a previous request. For further information, please refer to <https://resolution.nhs.uk/resources/understanding-nhs-resolution-data>.

To ensure you are provided with comparable data we have therefore rerun the data for the financial years 2020/21 and 2021/22. Please find attached the following tables:

Please note: Legal costs (claimant) = Legal costs and disbursements paid to claimants and their solicitors.

Table 1 shows: - The top 20 Claimant firms by claimant legal costs paid for the financial year 2020/21 for clinical negligence claims (Payment data includes: open,

settled with a PPO and closed cases. Claim count data reflects the number of claims with a Claimant Legal Costs Payment made in the financial year).

Table 2 shows: - The top 20 Claimant firms by claimant legal costs paid for the financial year 2021/22 for clinical negligence claims (Payment data includes: open, settled with a PPO and closed cases. Claim count data reflects the number of claims with a Claimant Legal Costs Payment made in the financial year).

Table 3 shows: - The top 20 Claimant firms by claimant legal costs paid for the financial year 2022/23 for clinical negligence claims (Payment data includes: open, settled with a PPO and closed cases. Claim count data reflects the number of claims with a Claimant Legal Costs Payment made in the financial year).

Please note that the previous responses reported the total claimant costs paid, with the total number of claims with **any** payment (Regardless of if it was a damages/claimant/Defence) within the year. The tables attached with this response reflect the number of claims where there has been a claimant legal cost payment made in that financial year. Therefore, you will note the number of claims has reduced significantly.

Further to our obligations to provide advice and assistance, you may find it helpful to review the work of the [Getting It Right First Time team](#) with whom NHS Resolution has been working with to undertake in-depth analysis of our claims data. They have produced a number of [reports](#) from analysing our claims data, which has been shared following approval of the confidentiality advisory group to the use of confidential patient information for this purpose.

If you would like to know how data is categorised in our Claims database please see the following link: [Glossary](#)

This concludes our response to your request.

If you are not satisfied with the service that you have received in response to your information request, it is open to you to make a complaint and request a formal review of our decisions. If you choose to do this, you should write to [Tinku Mitra](#), Deputy Director of Corporate and Information Governance, Data Protection Officer for NHS Resolution, within 28 days of your receipt of this reply. Reviews of decisions made in relation to information requests are carried out by a person who was not involved in the original decision-making about the request.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a review of the decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner will not make a decision unless you have exhausted the local complaints procedure. The address of the Information Commissioner's Office is:

Wycliffe House

Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

<https://ico.org.uk/>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

NB: Number of claims fewer than 5 (and any associated values, within the same row) are masked with a "#" (in accordance with Data Protection guidelines). Accordingly, some total values may also be approximated to prevent masked values to be deduced through reverse calculation.

Table 1: The top 20 Claimant firms by claimant legal costs paid for the financial year 2020/21 for clinical negligence claims (Payment data includes: open, settled with a PPO and closed cases. Claim count data reflects the number of claims with a Claimant Legal Costs Payment made in the financial year)

Table 2: The top 20 Claimant firms by claimant legal costs paid for the financial year 2021/22 for clinical negligence claims (Payment data includes: open, settled with a PPO and closed cases. Claim count data reflects the number of claims with a Claimant Legal Costs Payment made in the financial year)

Table 3: The top 20 Claimant firms by claimant legal costs paid for the financial year 2022/23 for clinical negligence claims (Payment data includes: open, settled with a PPO and closed cases. Claim count data reflects the number of claims with a Claimant Legal Costs Payment made in the financial year)

Table 1: The top 20 Claimant firms by claimant legal costs paid for the financial year 2020/21 for clinical negligence claims (Payment data includes: open, settled with a PPO and closed cases. Claim count data reflects the number of claims with a Claimant Legal Costs Payment made in the financial year)

Claimant Solicitor Firm	Claimant Legal Costs Paid	No. of Claims
Irwin Mitchell	56,083,880	1,182
Fletchers	16,625,340	927
Slater & Gordon	16,115,420	340
Leigh Day	12,783,416	145
Fieldfisher	10,524,583	94
Thompsons	10,291,523	242
Enable Law	8,750,341	142
Shoosmiths	7,175,716	121
JMW	7,111,265	156
Penningtons Manches	6,730,523	123
Stewarts Law	6,304,765	59
Simpson Millar	5,706,653	139
Pryers	5,485,611	160
Hudgell	5,441,512	193
Switalskis	4,698,008	85
Price Slater Gawne	4,662,836	126
Bolt Burdon Kemp	4,616,265	41
Royds Withy King	4,380,877	78
Gadsby Wicks	4,096,399	63
Ashtons Legal	4,038,681	72
Grand Total	201,623,612	4,488

Table 2: The top 20 Claimant firms by claimant legal costs paid for the financial year 2021/22 for clinical negligence claims (Payment data includes: open, settled with a PPO and closed cases. Claim count data reflects the number of claims with a Claimant Legal Costs Payment made in the financial year)

Claimant Solicitor Firm	Claimant Legal Costs Paid	No. of Claims
Irwin Mitchell	65,798,283	1,176
Fletchers	21,990,366	1,068
Slater & Gordon	17,471,184	359
Fieldfisher	12,007,057	109
Leigh Day	10,927,228	148
JMW	10,441,944	197
Stewarts Law	9,930,897	76
Penningtons Manches	9,282,269	118
Thompsons	8,617,838	217
Bolt Burdon Kemp	8,523,312	71
Enable Law	8,214,950	149
Shoosmiths	6,426,168	127
Switalskis	6,129,846	95
Hodge Jones & Allen	5,731,293	75
Price Slater Gawne	5,529,023	120
Royds Withy King	5,485,981	86
Simpson Millar	5,238,299	95
Pryers	4,884,112	120
Hudgell	4,589,606	179
Gadsby Wicks	4,254,779	71
Grand Total	231,474,435	4,656

Table 3: The top 20 Claimant firms by claimant legal costs paid for the financial year 2022/23 for clinical negligence claims (Payment data includes: open, settled with a PPO and closed cases. Claim count data reflects the number of claims with a Claimant Legal Costs Payment made in the financial year)

Claimant Solicitor Firm	Claimant Legal Costs Paid	No. of Claims
Irwin Mitchell	64,589,264	1,168
Fletchers	23,857,021	1,026
Fieldfisher	16,121,676	127
Slater & Gordon	15,704,029	354
Stewarts Law	10,172,576	69
JMW	9,891,875	194
Leigh Day	9,577,525	129
Thompsons	9,328,055	219
Enable Law	8,922,980	134
Shoosmiths	8,745,921	172
Penningtons Manches	8,186,721	117
Bolt Burdon Kemp	8,126,478	67
Switalskis	6,828,614	108
Price Slater Gawne	5,369,846	99
Lime Personal Injury	5,339,385	124
Hudgell	5,171,137	195
Pryers	5,087,891	90
Simpson Millar	4,367,470	95
Clear Law	4,344,607	91
New Law	4,205,834	115
Grand Total	233,938,903	4,693