NHS Resolution

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November 2025
FOI_7518

The following information was requested on 28 October 2025:

I am writing to request the following information:

*1. An annual breakdown of the total cost of clinical negligence claims made under the **Clinical Negligence Scheme for General Practice** (CNSGP) from 2019 to 2025. Please break this data down by year (either in financial years or calendar years, depending on how the information is held. Financial years would be preferred). By total costs I mean: damages, legal costs of the defendant and claimant, compensation, settlement payments, and any other such costs linked to the clinical negligence claims.*
2. If this data can be broken down by geographical region, please do so (East of England, Yorkshire and the Humber, etc.).
3. A breakdown of the data by the source of the costs, explicating in each year how much was paid out in damages, legal costs of the defendant and claimant, compensation, etc.

Please treat this request in order of importance. Hence, prioritise 1, then 2, then 3, as separate requests, meaning if answering question 3 pushes the entire request above the time/cost limits, proceed by answering questions 1 and 2.

Our Response

Thank you for your request for information. Please note our claims data only covers England and not the rest of the UK.

We are able to provide some of the requested information in financial years. We are unable to provide the geographic regional breakdown, as our CNSGP claims are not recorded in this way.

For more information about our CNSGP scheme please visit our website here: Clinical Negligence Scheme for General Practice (CNSGP) - NHS Resolution.

Please note: We have 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.

Claims notified/received in any given year will often relate to incidents that have occurred many years prior. Due to the nature of negligence claims and the level of investigation needed to bring them to a resolution, claims received and notified in a specific year may take years to settle and close. They are not guaranteed to be settled and closed in the same year. As such, there will be a time gap between incident and claim closure.

Due to the way in which data is extracted, it is also possible that the same claim may appear more than once in a dataset, across different year groups e.g. where the case has been closed (as unsuccessful), challenged, reopened and closed again at conclusion.

The data shows variation in numbers of cases closed per year and costs attributed to those claims. The individual nature of claims received by NHS Resolution means they can vary significantly in value, and any such fluctuations cannot be interpreted as trends**.**

Please find attached the following tables:

Table 1 shows: - Number and Cost of **CNSGP** Claims Closed between financial years ‘2019/20’ and ‘2024/25’ with a damages payment. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure.

Table 2 shows: - Number and Cost of **CNSGP** Claims Closed between financial years ‘2019/20’ and ‘2024/25’ with **NIL** damages paid.

Low figures

We have not provided the information for low figures involved as we believe that disclosure of information with this level of granularity is exempt under Section 40(2) by virtue of section 40(3A) (a) of the FOI Act, where disclosure to a member of the public would contravene one or more of the data protection principles. The data protection principles are set out in Article 5 of the General Data Protection Regulation. We take the view that it would not be fair or lawful (given the sensitive and confidential nature of the information held) to disclose such information and any disclosure would therefore contravene the first data protection principle.

In some instances, the low numbers of claims (fewer than 5) in each category, the likelihood exists that individuals who are the subject of this information may be identified either from this information alone, or in combination with other available information. In addition to this, as this information is considered to be sensitive personal data (the data subjects' medical condition); NHS Resolution believes it has a greater responsibility to protect those individuals' identities, as disclosure could potentially cause damage and/or distress to those involved.

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 Joanne Appleby, Deputy 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/

Freedom of Information Request# 7518
Data correct as at: The end of every financial year

T A B L E O F C O N T E N T S

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.

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Table 1: Number and Cost of CNSGP Claims Closed between financial years ‘2019/20’ and ‘2024/25’ with a damages payment. The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure.

ClosedSettled	Y
ClaimOutcome	Damages Paid

Year of Closure	No. of Claims	Damages Paid	NHS Legal Costs Paid	Claimant Legal Costs Paid	Total Paid
2019/20	#	#	#	#	#
2020/21	17	106,168	27,110	81,915	215,193
2021/22	67	340,111	115,623	402,987	858,720
2022/23	175	2,077,480	500,628	2,502,231	5,080,338
2023/24	269	5,671,190	942,357	5,835,861	12,449,408
2024/25	436	16,849,780	1,940,562	11,905,012	30,695,353

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Table 2: Number and Cost of CNSGP Claims Closed between financial years '2019/20' and '2024/25' with NIL damages paid.

ClosedSettled	Y
ClaimOutcome	Nil Damages

Year of Closure	No. of Claims	NHS Legal Costs Paid	Claimant Legal Costs Paid	Total Paid
2019/20	204	10,020	0	10,020
2020/21	651	102,968	0	102,968
2021/22	950	341,924	0	341,924
2022/23	1,495	762,875	0	762,875
2023/24	1,725	1,174,044	10,500	1,179,454
2024/25	1,793	1,584,563	30,000	1,614,563
Grand Total	**6,818**	**3,976,395**	**40,500**	**4,011,805**