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August 2026
FOI_7968

The following information was requested on 5 July 2026:

I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I would be grateful for the most recent details on the top-25 claimant law firms undertaking clinical negligence claims against NHS Resolution (NHSR), and the numbers involved.
Please provide the data covering the most recent full financial year, or the most recent 12-month period for which data is available.
Specifically, I would like the following metrics for each of the top-25 firms:

1. ***Total number of claims** (and their share of volume represented)*
2. ***Total damages paid** (and the share of damages represented)*
3. ***Total claimant firm costs** (and the share of costs represented) [1, 2, 3]*

For context, previous disclosures (such as FOI_6128) provided this information in a breakdown structure. I am seeking the updated equivalent of this data to understand the current landscape of clinical negligence litigation.

Our Response

Please find attached the requested information. The attached data covers the clinical negligence claims closed during the financial year 2024/25 for the 25 claimant firms with the highest number of claims, highest amount of damages payments and highest amount of claimant costs paid. Please note that due to the information requested we have presented the data in a different way to FOI_6128_Top-25-highest-paid-claimant-firms.pdf.

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.

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. **Not all claims received will result in an award of damages or costs**.

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 attached data covers our Clinical schemes - NHS Resolution.

Please find attached: -

Table 1 shows: - Number and Percentage Share of Clinical Claims Closed (or Settled with a periodical payment order) for the **2024/25 financial year**, ranked by the **25 claimant firms with the highest number of claims.**

Table 2 shows: - Number and Percentage Share of Clinical Claims Closed (or Settled with a periodical payment order) for the **2024/25 financial year**, ranked by the **25 claimant firms with the highest amounts of damages payments**. The data includes the damages paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure, or for PPO matters, year of settlement.

Table 3 shows: - Number and Percentage Share of Clinical Claims Closed (or Settled with a periodical payment order) for the **2024/25 financial year**, ranked by the **25 claimant firms with the highest amounts of claimant costs paid.**

NB: The percentage share shown in each table is calculated using all clinical claims closed, or settled as a PPO, during the 2024/25 financial year.

Claimant Costs
Claimant costs include both the legal costs charged by the claimant firm and any disbursements paid by that firm in connection with the claim, including (but not limited to) counsel's fees, expert witness fees, and court costs. Claimant costs are reported separately from damages paid to the claimant.

PPOs
The information disclosed includes damages and costs paid up to the end of the settlement year (in Periodical payment order (PPO) cases) and up to the end of the closure year in non-PPO cases.

PPOs are an agreement between the parties, to pay an initial lump sum and regular future payments (PPO damages) related to the injured party’s ongoing needs, usually care for life i.e., a percentage of the full value of the claim is paid at the point of settlement (lump sum damages) with the balance paid at regular intervals over subsequent years. The information disclosed includes lump sum damages, costs and any PPO damages paid up to the end of the year of settlement. It does not include PPO damages, which have been committed to but due to be paid after the settlement year.

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/

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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 Percentage Share of Clinical Claims Closed (or Settled with a periodical payment order) for the 2024/25 financial year, ranked by the 25 claimant firms with the highest number of claims.

ClosedSettled	Y
ClinicalNonClinical	Clinical

Claimant Solicitor Firm -- Claim Outcome	No. of Claims	Percentage Share of Total No. of Claims
Others	8,808	60.59%
Fletchers	1,565	10.77%
Irwin Mitchell	839	5.77%
Slater & Gordon	398	2.74%
Thompsons	271	1.86%
Switalskis	213	1.47%
Shoosmiths	196	1.35%
Simpson Millar	192	1.32%
Hudgell	190	1.31%
JMW	175	1.20%
Scott Rees & Co	148	1.02%
Nelsons	145	1.00%
Leigh Day	137	0.94%
Bond Turner	130	0.89%
Enable Law	126	0.87%
Fieldfisher	121	0.83%
Lyons Davidson	108	0.74%
Oakwood	99	0.68%
Thomson Snell & Passmore	98	0.67%
Stephensons	97	0.67%
Brindley Twist Tafft & James	89	0.61%
New Law	87	0.60%
Tees Law	78	0.54%
Browell Smith & Co	76	0.52%
Penningtons Manches	76	0.52%
Price Slater Gawne	75	0.52%
Grand Total	**14,537**	**100.00%**

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Table 2: Number and Percentage Share of Clinical Claims Closed (or Settled with a periodical payment order) for the 2024/25 financial year, ranked by the 25 claimant firms with the highest amounts of damages payments. The data includes the damages paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure, or for PPO matters, year of settlement.

ClosedSettled	Y
ClinicalNonClinical	Clinical

Claimant Solicitor Firm -- Claim Outcome	Damages Paid	Percentage Share of Total Damages Payment
Others	586,987,923	33.91%
Irwin Mitchell	301,088,467	17.39%
Fieldfisher	137,451,403	7.94%
Slater & Gordon	73,048,755	4.22%
Fletchers	67,952,028	3.93%
JMW	66,835,426	3.86%
Stewarts Law	51,268,905	2.96%
Leigh Day	42,047,570	2.43%
Thompsons	41,021,941	2.37%
Switalskis	36,891,303	2.13%
Enable Law	29,480,444	1.70%
Shoosmiths	28,216,277	1.63%
RWK Goodman	26,344,928	1.52%
Knights Professional Services	25,224,825	1.46%
Wolferstans	22,055,212	1.27%
Penningtons Manches	21,060,405	1.22%
Boyes Turner	20,897,501	1.21%
Price Slater Gawne	20,361,728	1.18%
Davies & Partners	19,704,443	1.14%
Moore Barlow	19,688,522	1.14%
Hugh James	18,838,556	1.09%
Bolt Burdon Kemp	18,638,232	1.08%
Ashtons	14,485,765	0.84%
Russell Cooke	14,232,500	0.82%
Jackson Lees	13,915,102	0.80%
Gadsby Wicks	13,428,166	0.78%
Grand Total	**1,731,166,326**	**100.00%**

Freedom of Information Request# 7968
Data correct as at: The end of every financial year

Table 3: Number and Percentage Share of Clinical Claims Closed (or Settled with a periodical payment order) for the 2024/25 financial year, ranked by the 25 claimant firms with the highest amounts of claimant costs paid.

ClosedSettled	Y
ClinicalNonClinical	Clinical

Claimant Solicitor Firm -- Claim Outcome	Claimant Costs Paid	Percentage Share of Claimant Costs Paid
Others	247,717,722	45.03%
Irwin Mitchell	70,838,043	12.88%
Fletchers	37,784,972	6.87%
Fieldfisher	20,882,267	3.80%
Slater & Gordon	19,711,079	3.58%
Switalskis	14,216,509	2.58%
Thompsons	13,838,604	2.52%
Leigh Day	12,607,745	2.29%
JMW	11,865,273	2.16%
Stewarts Law	10,876,964	1.98%
Shoosmiths	8,530,252	1.55%
Enable Law	8,238,871	1.50%
Penningtons Manches	7,396,908	1.34%
Simpson Millar	6,924,932	1.26%
Bolt Burdon Kemp	6,241,759	1.13%
Thomson Snell & Passmore	6,087,869	1.11%
Hodge Jones & Allen	5,186,235	0.94%
Wolferstans	4,913,303	0.89%
Stephensons	4,907,686	0.89%
Hugh James	4,888,300	0.89%
Davies & Partners	4,700,020	0.85%
Clear Law	4,402,065	0.80%
Jackson Lees	4,396,085	0.80%
Hudgell	4,369,424	0.79%
Tees Law	4,332,020	0.79%
Price Slater Gawne	4,306,178	0.78%
Grand Total	**550,161,082**	**100.00%**