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REF: FOI2021/06126

02 July 2021

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 8 June 2021 requesting the following information:

“Could you please send me the following information:

- * *What is your spend with external law firms*
- * *Do you use eBilling technology to manage your law firms billing (e.g. systems such as Legal Tracker, Brightflag, Apperio, CT Tymatrix, Mitrastech etc.)*
- * *Who is your head of legal / general counsel*
- * *Do you have a law firm panel / preferred supplier list / use a framework to buy your external law firm services”*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

A search for the information has now been completed within the UKHO, and I can confirm all the information in scope of your request is held.

The information you have requested can be found below, at annex A.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

UKHO Secretariat

Annex A:

- What is your spend with external law firms
As of the 9th March for the year 20/21 our spend with external legal suppliers was £138,557.78. This is the most accurate figure UKHO could calculate as part of a recent legal review and tracking various cost centres.
- Do you use eBilling technology to manage your law firms billing (e.g. systems such as Legal Tracker, Brightflag, Apperio, CT Tymatrix, Mitratech etc.)
No.
- Who is your head of legal / general counsel.
We do not have one.
- Do you have a law firm panel / preferred supplier list / use a framework to buy your external law firm services.
Yes, we exclusively use the CCS Framework to appoint external legal advisors.