

Reference: 2024-048

Thank you for your email in which you requested the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA):

1. Engagement with [redacted]: A detailed account of any engagement or contractual relationship between the Serious Fraud Office and [redacted], including:

- The specific cases on which [redacted] has worked in relation to the SFO.
- The duration of any such engagements.
- The nature of the services provided by [redacted].

2. Financial Transactions: Clarification on the absence of payments to [redacted] in the SFO's published accounts. Specifically:

- Any documentation that outlines payments made to [redacted] for their services.
- An explanation of how financial transactions with external legal firms are recorded and reported.

3. Mechanisms for Press Restrictions: Information on whether [redacted] has utilized any mechanisms to restrict press reporting on SFO matters in relation to their clients. This should include:

- Any legal provisions or protocols that are in place to control media reporting.
- Instances where such mechanisms have been invoked, particularly in relation to cases involving [redacted].

4. Oversight of Legal Counsel: An overview of how the SFO ensures that any legal counsel engaged, including [redacted], adheres to ethical standards and does not misuse mechanisms intended to protect sensitive information or investigations.

Response

The SFO does not hold information responsive to your request.