



Government Legal Department

Operations
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Westminster
London
SW1H 9GL

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FOI@governmentlegal.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/gld

Ref No: FOI 25_162

22 August 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 28 July 2025 which contained your request for information. The Government Legal Department ("GLD") have processed your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act").

Request

Please disclose any audit reports, performance reviews, or billing validation documents (including spreadsheets) created between FY 2021-2024 that analyse time and cost data submitted by external panel law firms (e.g., RM6203). Where available, include narrative task descriptions or summaries. I will accept redacted samples.

We were unable to provide all the information requested, so you have narrowed the request to the latest 2 cases for which data is available.

Response

Pursuant to Section 1(1)(a) of the Act, GLD informs you that it partially holds the information you have requested.

The data we hold is contained across several directorates within GLD, typically in the form of Excel spreadsheets, and it would take us considerable time to ascertain the latest two cases for which data is available and that we are able to disclose to you. However, we would like to be helpful and for this reason we have selected two recent matters that should provide you with a sample of information in accordance with your request.

We do not hold audit reports or performance reviews in respect of specific contracts. We do hold invoices from external panel law firms and during the process of billing validation an invoice tracker is completed.

Please find attached 2 invoices and the corresponding tracker that records this spend against the budget. We have redacted information under section 43(2) of the Act – Commercial interests. Disclosure of individual rates could prejudice GLD's ability to negotiate competitively, distort the supplier market and adversely affect the organisation's commercial interests. Although there is public interest in government spending transparency, this is outweighed by the public interest in protecting the integrity and fairness of future procurements, and ensuring best value for the taxpayer.

Invoice 1 relates to an individual case under the contract for the provision of ad-hoc commercial legal support to GLD. The contract can be found on Contract Finder and here is the link: [The Provision of Ad-Hoc Commercial Legal Support for GLD - Contracts Finder](#).

Invoice 2 relates to an individual case under the contract for the provision of ad-hoc legal support to the GLD Department for Education team. The contract can be found on Contract Finder and here is the link: [Ad-hoc Legal Service Support to CLG DfE - Contracts Finder](#).

Your Rights

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original correspondence. Please use the contact details provided at the top of this letter in order to request an internal review relating to your original request.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
www.ICO.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team
Operations, Government Legal Department,
102 Petty France, Westminster
London SW1H 9GL
FOI@governmentlegal.gov.uk

MATTER NAME	LSP-114 █████ Contingency Legal Support
LEAD LAWYER	██████████
BUDGET	£ ██████████
TOTAL SPENT	£ ██████████ -
BUDGET REMAINING	£ ██████████
END DATE	
z-reference	GLD Surplus

Invoice number	Invoice date	Period of charges	Net	VAT	Gross	Status	Comments
██████	31/01/2025	to 31 January	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ 13/03/2025 Certified.
██████	31/01/2025	to 31 January	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ 13/03/2025 Certified.
██████	31/01/2025	to 31 January	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ 13/03/2025 Certified.
██████	31/01/2025	to 31 January	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ 13/03/2025 Certified.
██████	31/01/2025	to 31 January	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ 13/03/2025 Certified
██████	31/01/2025	to 31 January	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ 13/03/2025 Certified.
██████	27/02/2025	to 31 January	██████	██████	██████	Draft Invoice	██████ 26/03/2025 Certified by ████████
██████	27/02/2025	to 26 February	██████	██████	██████	Draft Invoice	██████ 26/03/2025 Certified by ████████
██████	17/12/2024	to 30 November 2024	██████	██████	██████	Draft Invoice	██████ 26/03/2025 Certified
██████	31/10/2024	to 30 October 2024	██████	██████	██████	Draft Invoice	██████ 26/03/2025 Certified
██████	31/03/2025	to 25 March 2025	██████	██████	██████	Draft Invoice	██████ requested approval 02/04
██████	28/03/2025	to 18 March 2025	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ Certified on Omnidox
██████	21/03/2025	to 20 March 2025	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ Certified on Omnidox
██████	31/03/2025	to 28 March 2025	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ Certified on Omnidox
██████	21/03/2025	to 20 March 2025	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ Certified on Omnidox
██████	31/03/2025	to 27 March 2025	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ Certified on Omnidox
██████	21/03/2025	to 20 March 2025	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ Certified on Omnidox
██████	28/03/2025	to 20 March 2025	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ Certified on Omnidox
██████	31/03/2025	to 27 March 2025	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ Certified on Omnidox
██████	21/03/2025	to 20 March 2025	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ Certified on Omnidox
██████	31/03/2025	to 6 March 2025	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ Certified on Omnidox
██████	21/03/2025	to 20 March 2025	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ Certified on Omnidox
██████	21/03/2025	to 20 March 2025	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ Certified on Omnidox
██████	31/03/2025	to 26 March 2025	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ Certified on Omnidox
██████	31/03/2025	to 31 March 2025	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ Certified on Omnidox
██████	31/03/2025	to 31 March 2025	██████	██████	██████	Final Invoice	██████ Certified on Omnidox



Invoice

Government Legal Department
102 Petty France
LONDON
SW1H 9GL
United Kingdom

Invoice number [REDACTED]
VAT Reg No [REDACTED]
Date 28/03/2025
Our ref [REDACTED]
Your ref [REDACTED]

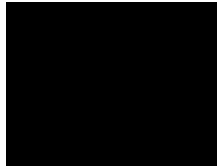
Matter: RM6179 - GLD - [REDACTED] Surge Support - Music Licensing Advice
Period of charge: to 18 March 2025

	Fees	Disbursements	VAT @ 20%
Professional charges for the supply of legal services			
Our costs Please see the attached detailed billing narrative. [REDACTED] <i>discount applied in line with our agreed Volume Threshold Discount.</i>	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]
Sub-totals	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Total disbursements	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Total VAT	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Less amount paid on account (if any)	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Balance now due	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	

Bank Account Details: [REDACTED]
For payments made in GBP: [REDACTED]
For payments made in USD: [REDACTED]
For payments made in EUR: [REDACTED]
Please quote the Invoice Number above as a reference
Interest : We may charge interest on any outstanding sums in this invoice. Interest will be charged at [REDACTED] above the Bank of England base rate, as varied from time to time or, if higher, the rate payable on judgment debts or the rate payable pursuant to the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998.
Taxation : You may be entitled to have this invoice reviewed by the Court. The procedure is set out in Sections 70, 71 and 72 of the Solicitors Act 1974.
Complaints : If you have a complaint about this bill please contact the partner supervising your work. If this does not resolve the query, please contact our Risk Director at [REDACTED] within one month of the bill being delivered. Interest will accrue whilst the investigation is carried out unless formally agreed with you in writing.

[REDACTED] is a limited liability partnership registered in England & Wales ([REDACTED]) whose registered office is at [REDACTED].
A list of members is available for inspection at that address.
[REDACTED] is authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority number [REDACTED].
[REDACTED] is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority under reference number [REDACTED]. Details of our FCA permissions can be found on the Financial Services Register at <https://register.fca.org.uk/>

Matter 116809/000057 **Description** RM6179 - GLD - Ad Hoc CO - Music Licensing Advice



Date	FE	Job Title	Activity Code	Units	Time	Rate	Value	Billed Value - with 13% discount applied	Bill number	Notes
17/03/2025		Trainee Solicitor	P	7	00:42:00					Proof reading advice note
18/03/2025		Trainee Solicitor	P	3	00:18:00					Proof reading
		Total		10	01:00:00					
11/03/2025		Managing Associate	P	15	01:30:00					Prep/ call with client 1 hour
12/03/2025		Managing Associate	P	10	01:00:00					Working on docs- call with client
12/03/2025		Managing Associate	P	25	02:30:00					Working on draft
13/03/2025		Managing Associate	P	28	02:48:00					Working on draft
14/03/2025		Managing Associate	P	20	02:00:00					Finalising advice
17/03/2025		Managing Associate	P	10	01:00:00					Working on review
17/03/2025		Managing Associate	P	20	02:00:00					Working on revised doc
18/03/2025		Managing Associate	P	20	02:00:00					Working on finalising doc/ emailing to client/ rev further work
		Total		148	14:48:00					
17/03/2025		Partner	P	9	00:54:00					Read email from [REDACTED] : PPL PRS advice for [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Edited doc Advice Note- 14.03.25.docx Edifed doc PPL PRS Draft Contract 2.docx Terms and Conditions of Contract for Services [Read-Only] - pdfDocs Composed email to [REDACTED] RE: PPL PRS advice for [REDACTED] [REDACTED] TheMusicLicence-Terms-and-Conditions [Read-Only] - pdfDocs
		Total		9	00:54:00					
		Grand Total		167	16:42:00					

MATTER NAME	Ad Hoc Legal Services Support 2025
LEAD LAWYER	[REDACTED]
BUDGET	[REDACTED]
TOTAL SPENT	[REDACTED]
BUDGET REMAINING	[REDACTED]
END DATE	April 5th 2026
Payment method	CLG Surplus

Matter Name	Invoice number	Invoice date	Period of charges	Net	Disbursements	VAT	Gross	Status	Comments
	[REDACTED]	28/08/2024	Aug-24	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Paid	Outstanding invoice from 2024
	[REDACTED]	14/05/2025	Apr-25	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		Client payable - [REDACTED] sent final invoice to client 14/7; [REDACTED] chased client for payment 8/8
	[REDACTED]	14/05/2025	Apr-25	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Paid	[REDACTED] certified 17/6
	[REDACTED]	24/04/2025	Apr-25	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Paid	[REDACTED] certified 19/5
	[REDACTED]	24/04/2025	Apr-25	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Paid	[REDACTED] certified 19/5
	[REDACTED]	28/05/2025	May-25	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Paid	[REDACTED] certified 17/6
	[REDACTED]	30/06/2025	Jun-25	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED] certified 18/6
	[REDACTED]	30/06/2025	Jun-25	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED] certified 18/6
	[REDACTED]	30/06/2025	Jun-25	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED] certified 18/6
	[REDACTED]	30/06/2025	Jun-25	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED] certified 18/6
	[REDACTED]	29/07/2025	Jul-25	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED] certified 14/8
	[REDACTED]	28/07/2025	Jul-25	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED] certified 14/8
						£0.00	£0.00		
						£0.00	£0.00		
						£0.00	£0.00		
			Total	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		



Invoice

Government Legal Department
102 Petty France
Westminster
London
SW1H 9GL

Invoice number [REDACTED]

VAT Reg No [REDACTED]

Date 28/07/2025

Our ref [REDACTED]

FAO: Panel Services
Management (PSM) team -
[REDACTED]

Your ref CLG Surplus Financial Year 2025-2026

Matter: Ad Hoc Team Support - Team E [REDACTED] - Family [REDACTED]

Period of charge: July 2025

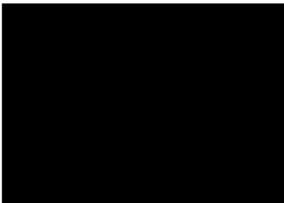
	Fees	Disbursements	VAT @ 20%
Professional charges for the supply of legal services			
Our costs [REDACTED] % discount applied in line with the agreed Volume Threshold Discount. Please see the below detailed narrative.	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]
Sub-totals	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Total disbursements	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Total VAT	[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]
Less amount paid on account (if any)	[REDACTED]		
Balance now due	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Bank Account Details: Barclays Bank Plc. [REDACTED]
For payments made in GBP: [REDACTED]
For payments made in USD: [REDACTED]
For payments made in EUR: [REDACTED]
Please quote the Invoice Number above as a reference

Interest : We may charge interest on any outstanding sums in this invoice. Interest will be charged at [REDACTED] above the Bank of England base rate, as varied from time to time or, if higher, the rate payable on judgment debts or the rate payable pursuant to the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998.
Taxation : You may be entitled to have this invoice reviewed by the Court. The procedure is set out in Sections 70, 71 and 72 of the Solicitors Act 1974.
Complaints : If you have a complaint about this bill please contact the partner supervising your work. If this does not resolve the query, please contact our Risk Director at [REDACTED] within one month of the bill being delivered. Interest will accrue whilst the investigation is carried out unless formally agreed with you in writing.

[REDACTED] a limited liability partnership registered in England & Wales (number [REDACTED]) whose registered office is at [REDACTED]

A list of members is available for inspection at that address.
[REDACTED] is authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority number [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority under reference number [REDACTED]. Details of our FCA permissions can be found on the Financial Services Register at <https://register.fca.org.uk/>



Matter Description
 ██████████ RM6179 - Ad Hoc Team Support - Team E ████████ - Family ██████████

Date	FE	Job Title	Activity Code	Units	Time	Rate	Value	Billed Value	Bill number	Notes
16/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	N1	6	00:36:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Emails with client (on 15/07) and internally to expedite conflicts checks.
16/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	N1	2	00:12:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Non chargeable - emails re. conflicts and file opening.
16/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	2	00:12:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Further email in and out to ██████████ re. new instructions/next steps.
16/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	2	00:12:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Call with ██████████ re. matter background/kick off (10:30)
16/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	3	00:18:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Preliminary review of information from ██████████ ██████████ role and policy background.
16/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	1	00:06:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Brief review of Submission.
16/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	N1	2	00:12:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Further emails re. file opening and fee proposal.
17/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	16	01:36:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Progressing advice note and handover re. matter background/required scope of advice to ██████████ on my NWD.
17/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	4	00:24:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Formulating first draft legal advice note.
17/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	2	00:12:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Review of email in from client giving further information and email back in response.
17/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	8	00:48:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Prep re. ██████████ call at 12:00 - review of legal issues and formulation of questions for client team.
17/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	5	00:30:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Call with client team to obtain matter background.
17/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	N1	4	00:24:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Correspondence to ensure additional legal/team support with formulating advice note.
17/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	7	00:42:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Review of email in from ██████████ re. additional background information and transfer of concepts into advice note.
17/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	3	00:18:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Review re. definition of "public contract"/public law considerations re. ██████████ instruction.
17/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	N1	4	00:24:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Formulating first draft legal advice note.
17/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	4	00:24:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Follow email up after call with client team.
18/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	5	00:30:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Additional prep re. ██████████ advice note - consideration of ██████████ issues.
18/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	7	00:42:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Call with ██████████ and ██████████ to scrutinise/interrogate likely legal issues and required scope of advice.
18/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	5	00:30:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Updating advice note re. key issues to consider.
21/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	20	02:00:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Drafting exec summary of legal issues and considering legal risk assessment/next steps for inclusion in advice note.
21/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	21	02:06:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Finalising advice note drafting.
21/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	5	00:30:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Review of ██████████ Handbook to better understand ██████████ concept and likely procurement law considerations (inc email to client clarifying understanding).
21/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	23	02:18:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Review re. ██████████ considerations to inform legal risk analysis.
21/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	6	00:36:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Call with ██████████ team to clarify background concepts and discuss likely issues arising.
21/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	15	01:30:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Consideration of relevant case law/PA 2023 considerations to inform legal advice note.
21/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	N1	2	00:12:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Email to ██████████ confirming progress of advice and observations made on Friday.
22/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	9	00:54:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Email out to client confirming safe receipt of comments and review/update of legal report.
22/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	7	00:42:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Review of advice note re. pecuniary interest.
22/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	9	00:54:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Finalising advice note and email to client.
22/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	1	00:06:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Call with ██████████ to finalise note.
22/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	2	00:12:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Review re. ██████████ extract.
22/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	1	00:06:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Email out to ██████████ re. fees.
22/07/2025	██████████	Managing Associate	MC	1	00:06:00	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████████	Review of email in from ██████████

Date	FE	Job Title	Activity Code	Units	Time	Rate	Value	Billed Value	Bill number	Notes
23/07/2025		Managing Associate	N1	1	00:06:00					Review of email in from [REDACTED] re [REDACTED] advice.
28/07/2025		Managing Associate	MC	2	00:12:00					Call with [REDACTED] to progress revised legal risk summary.
28/07/2025		Managing Associate	MC	2	00:12:00					Review of email in from [REDACTED] and reesponse.
		Total		219	21:54:00					
18/07/2025		Legal Director	P	6	00:36:00					Call with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to discuss advice required from [REDACTED] potential mitigations
18/07/2025		Legal Director	P	5	00:30:00					Call from [REDACTED] queries following his full reading of background docs/potential responses to queries raised by [REDACTED]
		Total		11	01:06:00					
18/07/2025		Associate	D	20	02:00:00					Calls with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to discuss work to be done / reviewing emails and documents provided, and carrying out research / planning advice and writing rough first draft of advice and sending to [REDACTED]
25/07/2025		Associate	MC	15	01:30:00					Discussion with [REDACTED] and email to her / call with [REDACTED] and email to [REDACTED]
		Total		35	03:30:00					
		Grand Total		265	26:30:00					
		Less [REDACTED] Volume Threshold Discount [REDACTED]								