



Government Legal Department

Operations,

102 Petty France, Westminster,
London
SW1H 9GL

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

By email only

T+44 (0)20 7210 3000

F+44 (0)20 7210 3104

www.gov.uk/gld

FOI@governmentlegal.gov.uk

29 October 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Request - FOI 25_228

Thank you for your email of 08 September 2025 which contained your request for information. The Government Legal Department (“GLD”) have processed your request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“the Act”, “FOIA”).

Request

- 1. How large is the true litigation spend on Paradise v. SSFCDA across all cases?**
- 2. Why are National Security and Defence Lawyers employed on a public law case?**

Response

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

In respect of point 2 of your information request. This information was provided to you in a letter dated 15 August 2025, but since you have requested the information under the Act the relevant extract is disclosed here: “The Defence, Security and General Public Law team acts for the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office in relation to all public law claims brought against it.”

In respect of point 1, GLD has enclosed the following expenditure relating to the case(s) you have requested. Please note that GLD does not ‘spend’, rather it invoices clients (the Government Departments) for the legal services it provides. The figures are accurate as of 09 September 2025, the day following your request for information, and cover all associated ‘costs’.

Z2506272 PARADISE S (FCO)	
GLD Time and Charges	£32,164.92
Court Fees	£639.60
Counsel's Fees:	
LORD MURRAY OF BLIDWORTH (39 ESSEX CHAMBERS)	£405.00
LORD MURRAY OF BLIDWORTH (39 ESSEX CHAMBERS)	£2,028.00
LORD MURRAY OF BLIDWORTH (39 ESSEX CHAMBERS)	£1,290.00
JENNIFER THELEN (39 ESSEX CHAMBERS)	£1,332.00
JENNIFER THELEN (39 ESSEX CHAMBERS)	£990.00
Total Inc. VAT	£38,849.52
Z2506624 PARADISE S (FCO)	
GLD Time and Charges	£3,471.84
Court Fees	£0.00
Counsel's Fees:	
LORD MURRAY OF BLIDWORTH (39 ESSEX CHAMBERS)	£2,028.00
Total Inc. VAT	£5,499.84
Z2508432 PARADISE S (HOME)	
GLD Time and Charges	£965.34
Court Fees	£0.00
Counsel's Fees:	
LORD MURRAY OF BLIDWORTH (39 ESSEX CHAMBERS)	£300.00
Total Inc. VAT	£1,265.34
Z2508435 PARADISE S S (FCO)	
GLD Time and Charges	£965.34
Court Fees	£0.00
Counsel's Fees:	
LORD MURRAY OF BLIDWORTH (39 ESSEX CHAMBERS)	£300.00
Total Inc. VAT	£1,265.34

Your Rights

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the 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
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