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[REDACTED]

Ref No: FOI 26_064

02 June 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email of 3rd May 2026 containing your request for information. The Government Legal Department ("GLD") have considered your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the Act", "FOIA")

Response

Pursuant to Section 1(1)(a) of the Act, GLD confirms that it does hold the information you have requested.

1.a) In each calendar year from 2016 to the date of this request, how many settlement agreements or non-disclosure agreements meeting the above definition were concluded between the authority and current or former members of staff?

Four.

1.b) Please provide this information broken down by year. Where the number in a given year falls below five AND you consider that a precise figure risks identifying individuals, please amalgamate adjacent years so that each reported cell contains at least five agreements.

The four were in the period between 2022-2024. We're amalgamating the figure because it relates to below five instances.

2.a) In each of the same calendar years, what was the total value of financial payments made to employees as part of the agreements described above?

2.b) Please provide this information broken down by year, applying the same approach to aggregation as in Question 1.b) where necessary.

The total amount of money paid out during this period was £463,700. We're amalgamating the figure because it relates to below five instances.

3.a) Does the authority have any policy, guidance, or internal procedure governing the circumstances in which non-disclosure clauses may be included in settlement agreements or other agreements with departing staff? If so, please provide a copy or summary of that policy.

Accordingly, we are refusing your request under section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), on the grounds that the information you have requested is reasonably accessible to you by other means. The information can be accessed at the following

location:[Guidance on Public Sector Exit Payments Use of Special Severance Payments.pdf](#)

4.a) What is the total headcount of the authority's workforce as of the most recent available date? Please state the date to which this figure relates.

Total headcount is 3,856 as of 31st March 2026

Your Rights

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask GLD for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted to GLD 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,

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