



Government Legal Department

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Ref No: FOI 25_226

11 November 2025

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email of 14 October 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

I am writing to request information on legal cases linked to the Windrush Compensation Scheme.

Please provide me with:

- 1. The total legal costs incurred by the Legal Aid Agency and, if applicable, other government departments or bodies, such as the Ministry of Justice, in all proceedings that formed part of this case: R (Joyce Oji) v Director of Legal Aid Casework [2024] EWHC 1281 (Admin). By legal costs, I mean the amount the Legal Aid Agency (or other government bodies) were billed by the GLD during those proceedings. If information on other legal costs is held, please provide me with that, too.*
- 2. If possible, please break the data included in question 1 down by the proceedings during which the costs were incurred (e.g., £10,000 incurred during High Court case, etc.) as well as the source of those costs (e.g., legal services fees, disbursements, etc.)*
- 3. The total legal costs incurred by the Home Office (or Home Department) and, if applicable, other government departments and bodies in all proceedings that formed part of this case: R (Lee) v Secretary of State for the Home Department. By legal costs, I mean the amount the Home Office or other government bodies were billed by the GLD during those proceedings. If information on other legal costs is held, please provide me with that, too.*
- 4. If possible, please break the data included in question 3 down by the proceedings during which the costs were incurred (e.g., £10,000 incurred during High Court proceedings, etc.) as well as the source of those costs (e.g., legal services fees, disbursements, etc.)*

Response

In relation to the request at numbered paragraphs 1 and 3 above, pursuant to Section 1(1)(a) of the Act, GLD informs you that it does not hold the information you have requested. Consequently we are unable to provide the broken down costs for both cases, as requested in paragraphs 2 and 4.

For the legal costs incurred by the Legal Aid Agency in *R (Joyce Oji) v Director of Legal Aid Casework* [2024] EWHC 1281 (Admin), work was carried out in the concluded High Court proceedings by departmental lawyers within the Ministry of Justice Legal Advisors (MOJLA), who are part of GLD. It is not possible to ascertain the costs arising from MOJLA's work because the Legal Aid Agency pays for MOJLA's work under a fixed fee arrangement. It is therefore not possible to identify the total legal costs incurred by the Legal Aid Agency in this case. We will be able to provide counsel costs for this case, but that will not be the total figure.

In relation to the legal costs incurred by the Home Office in the case of *R (Lee) v Secretary of State for the Home Department*, work has been carried out by a combination of GLD litigation lawyers and departmental advisory lawyers within the Home Office Legal Advisors (HOLA), who are part of GLD. It is not possible to ascertain the costs arising from HOLA's work because the Home Office pays for HOLA's work under a fixed fee arrangement. It is therefore not possible to identify the total legal costs incurred by the Home Office on this case. We will be able to provide GLD litigation costs, but that will not be the total figure for the case.

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,

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