



FOI RESPONSE ISSUED - 25 July 2023

REQUEST

1. Please supply the costs to Legal aid for the 5 highest costing persons that apply for legal aid in the last financial year.
2. Included in the costs, could you also show for these 5 persons, how many separate legal aid claims were submitted

OUR RESPONSE TO THE INFORMATION REQUEST UNDER THE 2002 ACT

To answer these questions I have produced the table below. These are the legal aid costs paid for the five highest costing persons in criminal legal aid in 2022-23. They are including VAT and include all payments paid between 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023. Payments include payments to solicitors, counsel (both advocates and solicitor-advocates), expert witnesses and outlays. Figures are rounded to the nearest £1000 and are presented in units of £1000.

Please note payments for fees and outlays are made only after accounts are assessed. Fees and outlays allowable upon assessment by SLAB or taxation by the Auditor will only be for work actually, necessarily and reasonably done, with due regard being had to economy¹.

The number of legal aid cases can include where persons have appealed following conviction and also advice cases for example where they are seeking a change of representation

	Total Paid inc VAT (£000)	Num legal aid cases paid
Person A	226	2
Person B	126	2
Person C	120	2
Person D	103	3
Person E	96	2

¹ For further information please see the SLAB website, e.g. <https://www.slab.org.uk/guidance/basis-on-which-slab-assesses-requests-for-payment-of-aa-fees-and-outlays-the-standard-of-taxation/>

