

REDACTED



Scottish Legal Aid Board

Thistle House
91 Haymarket Terrace
Edinburgh
EH12 5HE
Switchboard: 0131 226 7061
www.slab.org.uk

Reference Number: FOI2024/00026

23 September 2024

Dear REDACTED

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002

I refer to your letter request for information received on 12 September.

You requested the following;

Can you please provide the cost per year of how much is spent on Legal Aid. I am looking for your figures per annual.

If possible could you provide me with the figures over the past 30 years that would be most appreciated.

I am only looking for the figures for cases within Scotland and not Britain as a whole.

We can confirm that we do hold this and are pleased to provide you with this information in full in the enclosed spreadsheet.

We now consider this request closed.

Your right to request a review of decision

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which we have handled your request for information, you may ask us to review our decision. A request that we review our decision should be made in writing within 40 working days of the date of this letter or, if we have not responded to your request, within 40 days of the date by which we should have responded (that would normally be 20 days after receiving your request).

We will review our decision and tell you the outcome within 20 working days of receiving your request.

If, having done so, you remain dissatisfied, you may ask the Scottish Information Commissioner to review our decision.

You must submit your request in writing to the Commissioner within 6 months of first receiving notice about the matter you are complaining about.

The Commissioner will not deal with an application unless SLAB's review process has been used and exhausted - in other words, until you have asked us to review our decision and you are not satisfied with our response or have not received a response within 20 working days of your request.

The Commissioner's contact details are:

The Scottish Information Commissioner
Kinburn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews
Fife
KY16 9DS

Telephone: 01334 464610

Website: www.foi.scot

E-mail: enquiries@foi.scot

For details on how to appeal please go to their website www.foi.scot/contactus

Kind Regards,
FOI Team

Need communication support?

Translation & Interpretation, Braille, Larger formats, BSL and more.

If you need us to change how we communicate with you, please let us know by sending details to communicationsupport@slab.org.uk. Where possible, we will consider all reasonable adjustments and requests

All figures are £million

Financial year	Total Legal Aid Fund Expenditure	Civil legal assistance	Criminal legal assistance	Children's legal assistance
1995-96	125.4	40.1	83.6	1.7
1996-97	133.7	42.6	89.3	1.8
1997-98	136.1	42.6	91.8	1.6
1998-99	128.7	41.3	85.6	1.7
1999-00	120.2	38.8	79.7	1.3
2000-01	121.2	38.6	80.1	2.5
2001-02	127.3	38.6	85.9	2.8
2002-03	135.2	38.1	93.0	4.0
2003-04	145.9	40.1	102.5	3.2
2004-05	152.4	39.9	109.0	3.4
2005-06	147.9	39.5	104.0	4.2
2006-07	150.2	39.0	106.6	4.4
2007-08	155.1	39.8	110.5	4.5
2008-09	150.2	42.6	103.1	4.2
2009-10	150.5	47.2	98.1	5.0
2010-11	161.4	52.1	104.0	5.0
2011-12	157.7	52.2	98.5	4.9
2012-13	150.2	49.0	94.9	5.4
2013-14	150.5	47.8	94.0	4.9
2014-15	138.6	43.9	85.0	5.2
2015-16	137.8	42.4	84.3	5.1
2016-17	135.7	40.9	85.4	5.4
2017-18	124.5	42.3	74.3	5.4
2018-19	123.8	42.0	73.4	5.2
2019-20	130.9	46.1	75.8	5.3
2020-21	99.3	40.3	52.0	3.8
2021-22	118.2	43.6	66.1	4.4
2022-23	135.0	49.1	77.0	4.9
2023-24	151.2	53.2	90.1	5.2

Note

Source = Annual Report published figures - Appendix 1: Key statistics, Table 1.5

These figures are:

- * Net (i.e. income from contributions, expenses etc has been netted off, etc)
- * include Outlays
- * include VAT
- * include counsel & sol-ads

The sum of the three main lines is less than the sum of the total Legal Aid Fund (LAF) line.

This is because LAF expenditure also includes Grant funding and Miscellaneous payments

Source: AMI (SLAB)