

## Salomeh Kheyri Rad

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**From:** Foi Enquiries  
**Sent:** 22 May 2019 15:16  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FOI-19-0550 - Legal Costs  
**Attachments:** V3 - Further Information - Right to Review & Appeal.pdf

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your clarified information request of 23 April 2019. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested. Our response is now detailed below.

**Please could you provide me with the expenditures in each of the last five financial years on:**

- 1. Your in-house legal team (if you have one). Please could this be given for each of the past five financial years?**

**Clarified as:** the annual budget for each of the past five years of the in-house legal team.

	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19
Net Budget	1,233,406	1,052,887	1,156,665	1,377,085	1,278,467

Budget included all staff costs, staff training, materials and necessary software or memberships in order to operate the service.

- 2. Your external legal expenditure to include payments for external legal advisors or arms-length shared legal service team (if appropriate). Again, please could this be broken down for each of the past five financial years?**

	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19
Payments to Framework Partners	535,949.99	581,118.07	593,908.08	517,593.86	519,239.51
Payments to Faculty Services	Info not held	Info not held	41,200	82,075	61,825

Aberdeen City Council has a legal framework with three legal providers, Brodies, Morton Fraser and DWF. Please note that the above figures may include payments to external legal firms for settlements to a third party. Expenditure may also include reimbursements for fees and charges, paid by the external firm.

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **payments to Faculty Services for 2014/15 and 2015/16** as it is not held by ACC. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 17 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that this information is not held by it.

- 3. In relation to the external legal expenditure, please could you provide a breakdown for each of the past five years as to how much was spent per area of council business? For example: planning = £1,000, education = £2,000, HR= £1,000.**

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **how much was spent per area of council business for each of the past five year**, as it is not held by ACC. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 17 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that this information is not held by it.

There have been a number of structural changes within the organisation, that impact on the processes of service areas. Often external legal spend may cover matters that impact more than one area of the council.

## **INFORMATION ABOUT THE HANDLING OF YOUR REQUEST**

ACC handled your request for information in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Please refer to the attached PDF for more information about your rights under FOISA.

We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,

Access to Information Team



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