

Reference Number: FOIAH2324/343
From: Press/Media
Date: 21 September 2023
Subject: Whistleblowing Cases and Employment Tribunal Litigation

Q1 How many individual cases regarding disclosures made under the Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998 and/or whistleblowers have you fought at employment tribunals since 2015?
Please include a year by year breakdown

A1 Four cases in total:
One settled in 2016
one settled in 2018
one in 2022, ongoing, at preliminary hearing stage
one in 2023- ongoing, at preliminary hearing stage

Q2 How much has been spent on external lawyers and legal advice for Employment Tribunal Litigation pertaining to public interest disclosures in the past five years?
Please include a year by year breakdown.

A2 2019/20 - £29,960
2020/21 - £3,370
2021/22 - £315
2022/23 - £8,442
2023/24 - £17,489

Q3 Please can you include the name(s) of the law firm(s) and barristers involved and itemise how much was spent on each?

A3 The law firm used is Weightmans for all cases.

The names of barristers involved are available via the government website,
[Employment tribunals - Search - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/topics/employment-tribunals)

NB disaggregated financial data not available for 2012/13 - 2015/16 (inclusive)
2016/17 - £143,772
2017/18 - £41,588
2018/19 - £39,872
2019/20 - £29,960
2020/21 - £3,370
2021/22 - £315
2022/23 - £8,442
2023/24 - £17,489

Q4 How many ongoing cases are there pertaining to the above and in which year did they start?

- A4 Two - 2022, 2023
- Q5 What is the longest ongoing case relating to any of the above and what has been the cost of this to date?
- A5 The longest ongoing case commenced in 2014 and was concluded in 2021. Total cost was £352,230
- Q6 How many 'guardians' has the trust employed each year since 2015 to date? Please provide a breakdown for each.
- A6 Freedom To Speak Up Guardians were introduced nationally in 2016. The Trust has employed one since that time.