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August 2025 FOI_7344

The following information was requested on 24 July 2025:

Please provide a list of the top 20 legal firms (ranked by total payments made) involved in claims made to NHS Resolution during the financial year 2024/25. For each firm, please include:

- 1. The total amount paid in legal costs
- 2. The total amount of compensation/damages paid
- 3. The number of claims handled by the firm

[We sought clarification on the same day]

Thank you for your request for information below.

Please can we clarify does the request relate to claimant solicitors only?

We look forward to hearing from you.

[You replied on the same day]

Yes, that's right – just claimant firms.

Our Response

Thank you for your request. Please note that our data only covers claims for the NHS in England and not the rest of the UK.

Please note: We have recently changed the way we report on our FOIs to align better with our published documents. Streamlining our reporting on FOIs with our annual published reports may mean a variation in snapshot dates. This means this data may not align with previous similar requests and it may not be possible for you to compare this information with a previous request. For further information, please refer to https://resolution.nhs.uk/resources/understanding-nhs-resolution-data.

Claims notified/received in any given year will often relate to incidents that have occurred many years prior. Due to the nature of negligence claims and the level of investigation needed to bring them to a resolution, claims received and notified in a

specific year may take years to settle and close. They are not guaranteed to be settled and closed in the same year. As such, there will be a time gap between incident and claim closure.

Due to the way in which data is extracted, it is also possible that the same claim may appear more than once in a dataset, across different year groups e.g. where the case has been closed (as nil damages payment), challenged, reopened and closed again at conclusion.

The data provided covers both our <u>Clinical schemes - NHS Resolution</u> and <u>Non-clinical schemes - NHS Resolution</u>.

Please find attached the following tables:

Table 1 shows: - The 20 Claimant firms with the largest number of claims and/or Incidents received in financial year '2024/25'. The data excludes claims without a Claimant Solicitor recorded against it.

Table 2 shows: - Number and Cost of Claims Closed (or settled with a periodical payment order) in financial year '2024/25' with <u>Damages Paid or Nil Damages</u>, for the 20 Claimant firms with the largest total paid (Damages, NHS Legal Costs and Claimant Legal Costs). The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure, or for PPO matters, year of settlement. <u>The data excludes claims without a Claimant Solicitor recorded against it.</u>

PPOs

The information disclosed includes damages and costs paid up to the end of the settlement year (in Periodical payment order (PPO) cases) and up to the end of the closure year in non-PPO cases.

PPOs are an agreement between the parties, to pay an initial lump sum and regular future payments (PPO damages) related to the injured party's ongoing needs, usually care for life i.e., a percentage of the full value of the claim is paid at the point of settlement (lump sum damages) with the balance paid at regular intervals over subsequent years. The information disclosed includes lump sum damages, costs and any PPO damages paid up to the end of the year of settlement. It does not include PPO damages, which have been committed to but due to be paid after the settlement year.

If you would like to know how data is categorised in our Claims database please see the following link: Glossary

This concludes our response to your request.

If you are not satisfied with the service that you have received in response to your information request, it is open to you to make a complaint and request a formal review of our decisions. If you choose to do this, you should write to <u>Joanne Appleby</u>, Deputy Data Protection Officer for NHS Resolution, within 28 days of your receipt of this reply. Reviews of decisions made in relation to information requests are carried out by a person who was not involved in the original decision-making about the request.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a review of the decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner will not make a decision unless you have exhausted the local complaints procedure. The address of the Information Commissioner's Office is:

Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

https://ico.org.uk/



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NB: Number of claims fewer than 5 (and any associated values, within the same row) are masked with a "#" (in accordance with Data Protection guidelines). Accordingly, some total values may also be approximated to prevent masked values to be deduced through reverse calculation.

Table 1: The 20 Claimant firms with the largest number of claims and/or Incidents received in financial year '2024/25'. The data excludes claims without a Claimant Solicitor recorded against it.

Table 2: Number and Cost of Claims Closed (or settled with a periodical payment order) in financial year '2024/25' with Damages Paid or Nil Damages, for the 20 Claimant firms with the largest total paid (Damages, NHS Legal Costs and Claimant Legal Costs). The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure, or for PPO matters, year of settlement. The data excludes claims without a Claimant Solicitor recorded against it.



Table 1: The 20 Claimant firms with the largest number of claims and/or Incidents received in financial year '2024/25'. The data excludes claims without a Claimant Solicitor recorded against it.

Notified	Υ
Scheme	(All)

Claimant Solicitor Firm	No. of Claims
Fletchers	1,876
Thompsons	919
Irwin Mitchell	833
Slater & Gordon	459
Simpson Millar	301
Leigh Day	273
Hudgell	260
Express Solicitors	256
Scott Rees & Co	225
Bond Turner	219
Switalskis	202
JMW	175
Enable Law	142
Shoosmiths	137
JF Law	133
Fieldfisher	127
Trade Union Legal	126
RCN Law	112
Harris Fowler	108
True Solicitors LLP	97
Grand Total	6,980



Table 2: Number and Cost of Claims Closed (or settled with a periodical payment order) in financial year '2024/25' with Damages Paid or Nil Damages, for the 20 Claimant firms with the largest total paid (Damages, NHS Legal Costs and Claimant Legal Costs). The data includes the damages and legal costs paid up until the end of each relevant financial year of closure, or for PPO matters, year of settlement. The data excludes claims without a Claimant Solicitor recorded against it.

ClosedSettled

ClaimOutcome (Multiple Items)

Scheme (All)

Claimant Solicitor Firm	No. of Claims	Damages Paid	NHS Legal Costs Paid	Claimant Legal Costs Paid	Total Paid
Irwin Mitchell	868	302,322,040	21,457,789	71,457,538	395,237,367
Fieldfisher	121	137,451,403	7,012,365	20,882,267	165,346,036
Fletchers	1,622	68,144,496	9,049,269	37,911,222	115,104,987
Slater & Gordon	474	73,693,160	5,906,296	20,268,794	99,868,250
JMW	181	66,867,036	4,441,804	11,913,179	83,222,018
Thompsons	1,212	46,452,725	5,061,084	17,946,143	69,459,953
Stewarts Law	50	51,268,905	3,465,688	10,876,964	65,611,557
Leigh Day	140	45,068,777	3,905,461	13,478,745	62,452,984
Switalskis	216	36,891,303	3,356,436	14,216,509	54,464,248
Enable Law	128	29,632,344	1,883,890	8,264,071	39,780,305
Shoosmiths	197	28,241,277	2,101,277	8,555,252	38,897,806
RWK Goodman	50	26,344,928	1,216,088	3,861,976	31,422,992
Penningtons Manches	76	21,060,405	1,727,492	7,396,908	30,184,804
Wolferstans	66	22,293,462	1,816,931	5,015,948	29,126,341
Knights Professional Services	10	25,224,825	622,517	2,174,566	28,021,909
Bolt Burdon Kemp	40	18,638,232	1,385,843	6,241,759	26,265,834
Davies & Partners	33	19,704,443	1,530,326	4,700,020	25,934,789
Price Slater Gawne	77	20,361,728	1,182,139	4,306,178	25,850,044
Hugh James	79	18,843,556	1,443,704	4,906,800	25,194,059
Moore Barlow	41	19,700,522	1,190,555	4,234,703	25,125,780
Grand Total	5,681	1,078,205,568	79,756,955	278,609,540	1,436,572,063