

**CEO's Office and Governance**  
4 Abbey Orchard Street  
LONDON  
SW1P 2BS

DX: 328 London  
T: 020 7783 7000  
F: 020 7783 7633

[www.legalservices.gov.uk](http://www.legalservices.gov.uk)

By E-mail only:

**Our ref:** FOI-10/LL/4439

**Our E-mail:**

[foi.staff.cf@legalservices.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:foi.staff.cf@legalservices.gsi.gov.uk)

**Date:** 18 August 2010

Dear

**RE: YOUR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) REQUEST**

Your request for the following information has been passed to this Department to respond.

In your request you have asked for the following information under the FOI Act:

**I would like to know how much money has been claimed in legal aid so far by all individuals involved in the death of Peter Connelly, otherwise known as Baby P. I would like the total to include everything successfully claimed for in both civil and criminal proceedings.**

**If possible I would like that figure broken down.**

**Part one - a total for those involved in the criminal trial and their appeals. Please also include any legal aid claimed by the three for anything else - including the possible forthcoming inquest and any private legal action.**

**Part two - a total for all those employed or formerly employed by Haringey council, the NHS and police who have successfully claimed legal aid in relation to any action connected with Baby P.**

At this point in time, I can confirm that the Legal Services Commission (LSC) is aware of a total of three legal proceedings in relation to the death of Baby P. They are:

- Criminal proceedings
- Care proceedings
- Inquest proceedings

I can confirm that we do not have the final costs relating to the care and inquest proceedings as these matters are still ongoing. We decline to disclose costs in ongoing cases because we would not wish to influence the outcome of those

proceedings. Final bills received may be subjected to adjustments and/or recoupment following assessment of claims.

With regard to the criminal proceedings, the LSC can confirm that we paid a total of £666,714.92 (inclusive of VAT) for all individuals involved in the death of Baby P. This total amount could be broken down as below:

Police Station	£ 5,772.00
Crown Court	£655,784.00
Court of Appeal	£ 5,158.92
<b>Total</b>	<b>£666,714.92</b>

Finally, with regards to the information on any legal aid funding applications from any persons employed or formerly employed by Haringey council, the NHS and police in connection to Baby P, the LSC can neither confirm nor deny whether we hold this information. This is because without confirmed identities, we are unable to search our system to match the legal aid application and claims, if any.

If you wish to send in additional information regarding the individuals' identities, we would consider your request in the context of any applicable exemptions under the FOIA. It is likely that section 40(2)(a) of the FOIA would apply as the information requested may constitute personal data as defined under the Data Protection Act 1998.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us at the above address. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future correspondence.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: Legal Director, Legal Team, Legal Services Commission, 4 Abbey Orchard Street, London SW1P 2BS.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

**Lily Loke**  
**Corporate Governance Adviser**

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Community Legal Advice is a free government-funded confidential advice service.

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