

Information Released under Freedom of Information Act

Subject: Companies House Legal Costs for the period 1 June 2006 to 31 May 2007

Date Released: 29 June 2007

Summary of request: The applicant wanted to know the cost of legal services (in house resource and external advisers) for the most recently available financial year, and if external advisers are used a copy of the Companies House Framework Agreement or Invitation to Tender.

Information released:

The following figures are for the period 1st June 2006 to 31 May 2007.

In House Costs

The total cost for 4 legal advisers - £167,000

External Legal Costs

Litigation work referred to Treasury Solicitors - £277,580.54

Companies House does employ a debt collection agency who will, as part of the contract, employ solicitors to take cases to court but it would be very difficult to determine how much of that contract relates to legal services.

Framework Agreement - The OGC (Office of Government Commerce) have a legal services framework agreement and we are encouraged to use this when appropriate.

Details of this framework can be found at

<http://www.ogcbuyingsolutions.gov.uk/lcat/default.asp>