



Public  
Prosecution  
Service

Policy and Information Unit  
Public Prosecution Service  
Belfast Chambers  
93 Chichester Street  
Belfast BT1 3JR

[REDACTED]

FOI 309/23-24

18 September 2023

[REDACTED]

I refer to your email dated 18<sup>th</sup> August 2023 in which you asked for costs relating to [REDACTED]. Your request has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000**

The Freedom of Information Act creates rights of access for any person making a request for information to a public authority. The rights of access are twofold. First, to be informed by the public authority if it holds information of the description specified in the request, and if that is the case, secondly, to be provided with that information. These rights are subject to important limitations, which are designed to achieve a proper balance between the right to know and considerations of law and policy in the broader public interest.

You had asked the following:

*“1. For the legal aid purpose, we now need the information held by PPS as to:*

- a) The total number of fee earners/solicitors who have worked on this case at some stage.*
- b) Total fees paid to Counsel in the case of R v Sean McVeigh.*

*2. It would be appreciated that you could advise relevant information held by PPS regarding above questions”.*

In response to question 1 (a), we can advise that a Senior Public Prosecutor has carriage of the case.

In response to question 1 (b), the total fees paid to Counsel in R v McVeigh are as follows:

Pre committal Prep - £3,926 paid to Junior Counsel

**Independent, fair and effective**

Main hearing, trial fee - £12,548 paid to Led Junior Counsel

Total - £16,474 BL

Main hearing, trial fee - £18,582 paid to Senior Counsel

Crown Court Prep - £3,553 paid to Senior Counsel

Total - £22,135 KC

Both of these totals are net figures.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review in accordance with our review procedure. You should do this as soon as possible or in any case within two months of the date of this response and you can do so by writing to the Head of Policy and Information, Public Prosecution Service, Belfast Chambers, 93 Chichester Street, BELFAST, BT1 3JR or alternatively by sending an e-mail to [info@ppsni.gov.uk](mailto:info@ppsni.gov.uk). You should state clearly the grounds on which you are requesting the review.

Alternatively, you may wish 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,

Information Management Team  
Public Prosecution Service