



Reference: FOI-249

**Request:**

Please can you tell me how much have been spent in the last three financial years on external legal advice and external legal companies dealing with standards committee investigations.

I would be grateful for an outline of:

1. How often in the last three financial years have external solicitors been used to investigate standards complaints?
2. How many of these complaints have been upheld?
3. What has been the individual cost of each complaint?
4. What percentage of standards complaints are referred for external investigation?

**Response:**

Year	Number of times in the last three financial years that external solicitors have been used to investigate standards complaints	How many of these complaints have been upheld	Cost of each complaint	What percentage of standards complaints are referred for external investigation
2022-23 (currently to November 2022)	5	5 currently outstanding	Not yet known	26%
2021-2022	2 investigated 3 others referred for investigation but judged to be outside of the code at an early stage and not taken further	1 1 – unable to be completed	£17109.00 £2400.00	12.5%
2020-2021	0	0		0%
2019-2020	0	0		0%

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