your ref \
our ref \ GM/rk
date \ 13th June 2007

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FAO Tracey Bloom
Doughty Street Chambers
DX 223
Chancery Lane

Dear Tracey

Re: Legal Aid

The letter from the LSC that I mentioned in my e-mail is **attached**. I would be extremely grateful if you could find someone to scan it in for me and then e-mail it back so that I can start circulating it because it very helpfully debunks the myth that there is no link between cost and quality.

Thanks very much.

Yours sincerely

Gareth Mitchell.

Gareth Mitchell
PIERCE GLYNN
Enc

Community Legal Service

Stephen Pierce, Polly Glynn, Joanna Thomson, Deborah Gellner, Sue Willman
Associate Solicitors: Gareth Mitchell, Adam Hundt, Zubier Yazdani
Specialists in Housing, Social Security, Community Care and Public Law
Regulated by the Law Society

Pierce Glynn Solicitors
8 Union Street
London SE1 1SZ
DX 144360 Southwark 4

020 7407 0007 tel
020 7407 0444 fax
www.pierceglynn.co.uk
mail@pierceglynn.co.uk

legal services COMMISSION

Secretariat
85 Gray's Inn Road
LONDON
WC1X 8TX
DX: 450 London

T: 020 7759 0000
F: 020 7759 0419
www.legalservices.gov.uk

[redacted]

Ref: S/IC/FOI(19) - Log 632

Date: 08 June 2007

Dear Mr[redacted]

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request – Log 632

Thank you for your Freedom of Information Act request dated 3 May 2007. As stated in my letter dated 5 June 2007, please accept my apologies for the delay in providing this response.

You have requested details of the average Legal Help housing claim (actual costs not tailored fixed fees) in the last 12 months (or equivalent period if that data is more readily available) for the following categories of Legal Help suppliers:

- those suppliers who have a category 1 peer review score (for the avoidance of doubt do not aggregate this with those with category 2 scores);
- those suppliers who have a category 2 peer review score;
- those suppliers who have a category 3 peer review score;
- those suppliers who have a category 4 or 5 peer review score.

The table below provides the information you have requested. However, there are a number of conditions which been used in the calculations and which need to be taken into account when interpreting the data provided.

Conditions used in calculations:

- Cases have been calculated for the period May 2006 through to April 2007.
- Only 'Housing' claims in 'Legal Help' have been included.
- For all solicitors firms, average case costs were calculated by dividing the total costs reported (not tailored fixed fees) by the number of cases.
- For Not for Profit Agencies (NFPs) the calculation is slightly different because they have previously reported in hours not in actual costs. The average case cost was calculated by multiplying the hourly rate by the average case time (in hours).
- The table below then provides the number of cases and the total cost incurred where the provider scored a Peer Review of 1. The average cost per case is then calculated by dividing the number of cases by the total cost for all Peer Review

firms with a score of 1. This method is then used for all other Peer Review categories.

Peer Review Score	No. of Cases	Total Cost	Average cost / case
Average PR = 1	293	£84,594.26	£ 288.72
Average PR = 2	2519	£630,982.36	£ 250.49
Average PR = 3	7770	£1,446,664.93	£ 186.19
Average PR = 4 & 5	3467	£544,866.50	£ 157.16

Yours sincerely,

Daniel Regan
Information Compliance Executive