



Meeting	SPA Legal Committee
Date	14 May 2024
Location	Microsoft Teams
Title of Paper	Legal Services Claims Handling - Quarterly Statistical Information Report - Trends & Analysis in litigation
Presented By	James Douglas, Legal Services Manager
Recommendation to Members	For Discussion
Appendix Attached	Yes – Appendix 1 - Claims

PURPOSE

The SPA Legal Committee directed that a standard report be presented to the Committee each quarter outlining the number of legal cases settled by Police Scotland within the previous financial quarter.

Members are invited to discuss the contents of this report.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The SPA Legal Committee directed that a standard report be presented to the Committee each quarter outlining the number of legal cases settled by Police Scotland within the previous financial quarter.

2. FURTHER DETAIL ON THE REPORT TOPIC

- 2.1 This report represents the latest in a series laid before the Committee. Those on the Committee have advised that they would ultimately wish to see any trends on the types of cases being raised against Police Scotland, and ultimately settled, to determine if further training or investigation is needed to reduce the number of said claims. A new claims Register will come into operation which should allow for management information hitherto unavailable to be made available.
- 2.2 The tables below outline the number of claims settled by Police Scotland during the period January– March 2024 (Q4) under the general headings of Employers' liability, Public liability and motor vehicle claims.
- 2.3 In Quarter 4 of the financial year 2023-24, of the 77 claims settled by Police Scotland; 58 claims were motor related, 8 were employer liability matters and 11 related to public liability.
- 2.4 The following tables are intended to represent the different type of claim settled by Police Scotland, the total settlement figures under said headings and an average settlement figure. The Committee asked at its meeting in March 2021 that a table be added to the report to show the settlement figures as a percentage of the settlement figures within the current financial year. That figure is now provided within the Tables.

OFFICIAL

EMPLOYERS LIABILITY CLAIMS JANUARY - MARCH 2024

Range	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	Average £	% of FY £
£0 - £75K	6	104,500	17,416.67	22.70%
£75K - £150K	1	75,000	75,000.00	100.00%
£150K - £250K				0.00%
£250K - £1M	1	874,363	874,363.08	100.00%
£1M +				0.00%
Total	8	1,053,863	131,733	59.89%

EMPLOYERS LIABILITY CLAIMS FINANCIAL YEAR 2023-24

Range	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	Average £
£0 - £75K	35	460,327	13,152
£75K - £150K	1	75,000	75,000
£150K - £250K	2	349,997	174,998
£250K - £1M	1	874,363	874,363
£1M +		-	-
Total	39	1,759,687	45,120

PUBLIC LIABILITY CLAIMS JANUARY - MARCH 2024

Range	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	Average £	% of FY £
£0 - £75K	11	48,046.42	4,368	15.06%
£75K - £150K				0.00%
£150K - £250K				0.00%
£250K - £1M				0.00%
£1M +				0.00%
Total	11	48,046	4,368	15.06%

OFFICIAL

PUBLIC LIABILITY CLAIMS FINANCIAL YEAR 2023-24

Range	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	Average £
£0 - £75K	54	319,097	5,909
£75K - £150K	0	-	-
£150K - £250K	0	-	-
£250K - £1M	0	-	-
£1M +	0	-	-
Total	54	319,097	5,909

MOTOR CLAIMS JANUARY - MARCH 2024

Range	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	Average £	% of FY £
£0 - £75K	58	185,125	3,192	18.33%
£75K - £150K				0.00%
£150K - £250K				0.00%
£250K - £1M				0.00%
£1M +				0.00%
Total	58	185,125	3,192	18.33%

MOTOR LIABILITY CLAIMS FINANCIAL YEAR 2023-24

Range	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	Average £
£0 - £75K	295	1,009,847	3,423
£75K - £150K	0	-	-
£150K - £250K	0	-	-
£250K - £1M	0	-	-
£1M +	0	-	-
Total	295	1,009,847	3,423

3. HISTORICAL SETTLEMENT FIGURES

3.1 The Committee asked to be provided with historical figures for the settlement of cases within the 3 categories. Those are represented in the Table at Appendix 1.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no further financial implications in this report. Clearly the report provides information about the numbers and values of claims raised against Police Scotland, however the report gives no rise to further financial implications in and of itself.

5. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no personnel implications in this report.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no legal implications in this report.

7. REPUTATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are reputational implications associated with this paper.

The number of claims settled by Police Scotland is a matter of public interest. The report itself provides detailed information about the numbers and values of claims within the current financial year. Accordingly, reputational implications may flow therefrom.

8. SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no social implications in this report.

9. COMMUNITY IMPACT

9.1 There are no community implications in this report.

10. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

10.1 There are no equality implications in this report.

11. ENVIRONMENT IMPLICATIONS

11.1 There are no environmental implications in this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are invited to discuss the contents of this report.

Appendix 1

Employer Claims

Range	2018/19		2019/20		2020/21		2021/22		2022/23	
	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	No of Case References	Total Settlements £
£0 - £75K	32	304,222	33	348,501	19	195,448	32	258,911	25	291,425
£75K - £150K	1	150,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
£150K - £250K	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	155,000	-	-
£250K - £1M	4	1,631,948	2	1,172,435	2	853,000	-	-	-	-
£1M +	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1,910,332	1	1,263,867
Employers Total	37	2,086,170	35	1,520,936	21	1,048,448	34	2,324,243	26	1,555,292

Public Claims

Range	2018/19		2019/20		2020/21		2021/22		2022/23	
	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	No of Case References	Total Settlements £
£0 - £75K	64	209,979	75	271,430	55	343,571	55	451,340	64	241,284
£75K - £150K	-	-	-	-	1	150,000	2	270,950	-	-
£150K - £250K	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	160,500	-	-
£250K - £1M	-	-	1	269,197	-	-	2	800,950	-	-
£1M +	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public Total	64	209,979	76	540,627	56	493,571	60	1,683,740	64	241,284

Motor Claims

Range	2018/19		2019/20		2020/21		2021/22		2022/23	
	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	No of Case References	Total Settlements £
£0 - £75K	245	765,236	242	702,567	214	652,761	214	801,463	230	872,141
£75K - £150K	-	-	1	124,668	-	-	-	-	-	-
£150K - £250K	-	-	-	-	1	200,000	-	-	1	164,661
£250K - £1M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
£1M +	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Motor Total	245	765,236	243	827,234	215	852,761	214	801,463	231	1,036,801

Total of all Claims

Range	2018/19		2019/20		2020/21		2021/22		2022/23	
	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	No of Case References	Total Settlements £
£0 - £75K	341	1,279,438	350	1,322,498	288	1,191,781	301	1,511,714	319	1,404,850
£75K - £150K	1	150,000	1	124,668	1	150,000	2	270,950	-	-
£150K - £250K	-	-	-	-	1	200,000	2	315,500	1	164,661
£250K - £1M	4	1,631,948	3	1,441,631	2	853,000	2	800,950	-	-
£1M +	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1,910,332	1	1,263,867
TOTAL	346	3,061,386	354	2,888,797	292	2,394,781	308	4,809,447	321	2,833,378