



Meeting	SPA Legal Committee
Date	11 March 2025
Location	Online
Title of Paper	Legal Services Claims Handling – Quarterly Statistical Information Report – Trends and Analysis in litigation
Presented By	James Douglas, Legal Services Manager
Recommendation to Members	For Discussion
Appendix Attached	Yes – Appendix 1 – Employer, Public and Motor Claims

PURPOSE

The Committee asked that a report be provided on a quarterly basis on settlement figures arising from claims raised against Police Scotland.

Members are invited to discuss the contents of the report and appendix.

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 October – December (Q3) under the general headings of Employers' liability, Public liability and motor vehicle claims.
- 2.3 In Quarter 3 of the financial year 2024-25, of the 82 claims settled by Police Scotland; 60 claims were motor related, 6 were employer liability matters and 16 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 OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2024

Range	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	Average £	% of FY £
£0 - £75K	5	60,451	12,090	19.42%
£75K - £150K				0.00%
£150K - £250K	1	150,000	150,000	39.89%
£250K - £1M				0.00%
£1M +				0.00%
Total	6	210,451	35,075	25.67%

EMPLOYERS LIABILITY CLAIMS FINANCIAL YEAR 2024-25

Range	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	Average £
£0 - £75K	35	311,218	8,892
£75K - £150K	1	132,669	132,669
£150K - £250K	2	375,994	187,997
£250K - £1M	0	-	-
£1M +		-	-
Total	38	819,881	21,576

PUBLIC LIABILITY CLAIMS OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2024

Range	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	Average £	% of FY £
£0 - £75K	15	30,087	2,006	32.76%
£75K - £150K	1	75,000	75,000	100.00%
£150K - £250K				0.00%
£250K - £1M				0.00%
£1M +				0.00%
Total	16	105,087	6,568	62.98%

OFFICIAL

PUBLIC LIABILITY CLAIMS FINANCIAL YEAR 2024-25

Range	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	Average £
£0 - £75K	54	91,850	1,701
£75K - £150K	1	75,000	75,000
£150K - £250K	0	-	-
£250K - £1M	0	-	-
£1M +	0	-	-
Total	55	166,850	3,034

MOTOR CLAIMS OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2024

Range	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	Average £	% of FY £
£0 - £75K	59	194,680	3,300	27.52%
£75K - £150K				0.00%
£150K - £250K				0.00%
£250K - £1M	1	312,842	312,842	100.00%
£1M +				0.00%
Total	60	507,521	316,141	49.74%

MOTOR LIABILITY CLAIMS FINANCIAL YEAR 2024-25

Range	No of Case References	Total Settlements £	Average £
£0 - £75K	193	707,501	3,666
£75K - £150K	0	-	-
£150K - £250K	0	-	-
£250K - £1M	1	312,842	312,842
£1M +	0	-	-
Total	194	1,020,342	316,507

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 the report and appendix.

OFFICIAL

Appendix 1

**Employer
Claims**

	2019/20		2020/21		2021/22		2022/23		2023/24	
Range	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	33	348,501	17	129,948	33	216,411	23	141,425	35	460,327
£75K - £150K	-	-	2	65,500	2	92,500	2	150,000	1	75,000
£150K - £250K	-	-	-	-	1	155,000	-	-	2	349,997
£250K - £1M	2	1,172,435	2	853,000	-	-	-	-	1	874,363
£1M +	-	-	-	-	1	1,918,725	1	1,263,867	0	-
Employers Total	35	1,520,936	21	1,048,448	37	2,382,635	26	1,555,292	39	1,759,687

Public Claims

	2019/20		2020/21		2021/22		2022/23		2023/24	
Range	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	75	271,430	51	93,571	54	229,680	69	191,284	54	319,097
£75K - £150K	-	-	5	400,000	7	492,110	1	50,000	0	-
£150K - £250K	-	-	-	-	1	160,500	-	-	0	-
£250K - £1M	1	269,197	-	-	2	800,950	-	-	0	-
£1M +	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-
Public Total	76	540,627	56	493,571	64	1,683,240	70	241,284	54	319,097

SPA Legal Committee
Claims Handling – Statistical Report
March 2025

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Motor Claims

Range	2019/20		2020/21		2021/22		2022/23		2023/24	
	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	242	702,567	254	644,569	282	801,488	297	873,635	295	1,009,847
£75K - £150K	1	124,668	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-
£150K - £250K	-	-	1	200,000	-	-	1	163,167	0	-
£250K - £1M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-
£1M +	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-
Motor Total	243	827,234	255	844,569	282	801,488	298	1,036,801	295	1,009,847

Total of all Claims

Range	2019/20		2020/21		2021/22		2022/23		2023/24	
	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	350	1,322,498	322	868,088	369	1,247,579	389	1,206,344	384	1,789,271
£75K - £150K	1	124,668	7	465,500	9	584,610	3	200,000	1	75,000
£150K - £250K	-	-	1	200,000	2	315,500	1	163,167	2	349,997
£250K - £1M	3	1,441,631	2	853,000	2	800,950	0	-	1	874,363
£1M +	-	-	0	-	1	1,918,725	1	1,263,867	-	-
TOTAL	354	2,888,797	332	2,386,588	383	4,867,364	394	2,833,378	388	3,088,631