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| [REDACTED] | Area G-GOAGVictoria QuayEdinburgh EH6 6QQDate 27 May 2015 |

Dear [REDACTED]

**Freedom of Information Request**

Thank you for your email of 05 May 2015 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).  You asked:

“Could you please tell me how many people have been recruited in the department as contingent workers in every financial year since 2010/11? Contingent labour should cover all workers employed by the department on a non-permanent basis. For example, as consultants or agency staff. If possible, could you also provide me with the information that shows a breakdown of the type of work carried out by workers recruited as contingent labour, the organisation from which they were hired, and the total cost of their services?

 Could you please tell me how many people have been promoted in the department in every one of the five financial years since 2010/11, including a breakdown by job grade? Could you also please provide the figures for promotions as a proportion of total employees within each grade and the department as a whole?”

I am writing to confirm that we do not hold all the information you have requested. The Office of the Advocate General does not directly employ staff. All our staff are on secondment from other Government departments, primarily the Scottish Government and the Ministry of Justice and therefore any requests regarding promotions should be made to them. Their email addresses for FOI requests are:

ceu@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

<https://www.justice.gov.uk/information-access-rights/foi-requests/make-an-foi-request-online>

We have not employed any consultants for the years you mention. We do have information regarding agency workers for the years you have specified.

2010-11 3 total cost £5,213.21 Pertemps

2011-12 3 total cost £32,461.73 Pertemps

2012-13 3 total cost £27,302.49 Pertemps

2013-14 3 total cost £52,623.26 Pertemps

2014-15 7 total cost £146,778.79 Pertemps, Frasia Wright & Search

In years 2010 to 2014 all agency staff were administrative staff, carrying out a variety of administrative duties and hired from Pertemps.

In 2014-15, 3 agency staff were admin staff, again hired from Pertemps and 4 were solicitors hired on a temporary basis from Frasia Wright and Search who carried out a variety of legal duties, mainly Litigation.

You may, if dissatisfied with the treatment of your request, ask the Office of the Advocate General to conduct an internal review of its decision.  The internal review will be conducted by someone other than the person who took the initial decision.  Requests for internal review should be addressed to the Information Officer, Office the Advocate General, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ.

If following the internal review you remain dissatisfied with the treatment of your request by OAG then you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner, whose address is Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.  Details of the complaints procedure can be found here:

<http://www.ico.gov.uk/complaints/freedom_of_information.aspx>

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]