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| [REDACTED] | Area GG SouthOAGVictoria QuayEdinburgh EH6 6QQDate: 22 November 2017 |

Dear [REDACTED]

**Freedom of Information Request**

Thank you for your email of 13 November 2017 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).  You asked:

1. The number of fruitless payments (payments for which liability not to have been incurred or whether the demand for the goods and services in questions could have been cancelled in time to avoid liability) in excess of £30,000 made by or paid for by your department in the financial years: 2016-17 and 2017-18.

 2. What each payment was for

 3. The value of each payment

 4. The reason why the payment was made

 5. The reason why the payment was classified as fruitless

 6. Whether any disciplinary action was taken as a result of the payment (if there was any disciplinary action, please specify what the action was).

Having completed our search for information, I can confirm that the Office of the Advocate General did not make any fruitless payments in financial years 2016-17 and 2017-18.

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

Derek Wilson

OAG Business Manager