



Joint Corporate Legal Services Case Statistics Report

1. Report Purpose

- 1.1 To provide statistics relating to civil claims and other legal proceedings against North Yorkshire Police (NYP) for the period 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021.
- 1.2 To provide details of the number of open cases with reserves as at 30 June 2021.
- 1.3 To provide annual statistics relating to public liability, employer's liability and third party motor.

2. Key Information including Implications

- 2.1 Public liability claims arise out of allegations of wrongful arrest/false imprisonment, negligence, assault, malicious prosecution, personal injury and damage to property. Joint Corporate Legal Services (JCLS) currently act for the Chief Constable (CC) and the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) as part of Evolve Legal Services in respect of such claims.
- 2.2 Employers liability and third party motor claims are handled by NYP's insurers who in turn instruct external solicitors if and as required. JCLS investigate and co-ordinate the response to such claims.
- 2.3 JCLS also act for CC and PFCC in relation to other legal matters including, but not limited to:
 - Judicial Review
 - Employment Law
 - Inquests
 - Civil Orders, for example sexual risk, domestic violence, proceeds of crime and dangerous dogs
 - Licensing, for example firearms, gambling, liquor and sex establishments
 - Property/Commercial
 - Public Inquiries
 - Operations
 - Disclosure and information sharing

2.4 Public Liability Claims

Numbers of public liability claims for both the Chief Constable and Police Fire and Crime Commissioner are set out below. These figures are for claims opened under the one main head of claim, however please note that one claim may be brought under several heads of claim.

Chief Constable

	01/04/20 – 30/06/20	01/07/20 – 30/09/20	01/10/20 – 31/12/20	01/01/21 – 31/03/21	01/04/21 – 30/06/21
Assault	1	2	0	1	0
False Imprisonment	2	9	2	0	4
Misfeasance in Public Office	0	0	0	1	0
Property (Buildings)	6	8	5	4	3
Property (Personal)	8	9	4	5	4
Other	0	2	1	7	2
Total	17	30	12	18	13

2.5 The files opened in the period 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021 are currently estimated to represent a potential liability in damages of £70,352. The potential liability in respect of claimant solicitor's costs is nil and for NYP defence costs (Counsel, external solicitors and disbursements) is £2,430. These figures consist of payments made and professional estimates based on the information received to date from the claimant.

2.6 A claim form is the document used to commence proceedings in the Civil Courts. In the period 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021 one claim form was received in relation to this category.

2.7 A claim is closed where either:

- The matter is settled without proceedings being issued, or
- The matter concludes following trial or other disposal hearing at court, or
- Liability has been denied and no further correspondence has been received from the claimant for a period of at least six months.

2.8 In the period 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021, 10 claims were closed. Payments made for these claims in respect of claimant damages amounted to £3,086. No payments were made for these claims in respect of claimant solicitor's costs and NYP defence costs.

Police Fire and Crime Commissioner

	01/04/20 – 30/06/20	01/07/20 – 30/09/20	01/10/20 – 31/12/20	01/01/21 – 31/03/21	01/04/21 – 30/06/21
Property (Personal)	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0

- 2.9 No files were opened during the period 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021.
- 2.10 A claim form is the document used to commence proceedings in the Civil Courts. In the period 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021 no claim forms were received in relation to this category.
- 2.11 The file closure criteria described at paragraph 2.7 are also applied to these cases. During the period 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021, no claims were closed.

2.12 **Employers Liability Claims**

The number of employer's liability claims opened for both the Chief Constable and Police Fire and Crime Commissioner are set out below.

	01/04/20 – 30/06/20	01/07/20 – 30/09/20	01/10/20 – 31/12/20	01/01/21 – 31/03/21	01/04/21 – 30/06/21
Other	1	0	0	0	2
Total	1	0	0	0	2

- 2.13 The files opened in the period 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021 are currently estimated to represent a potential liability of £38,750. This figure consists of payments made and professional estimates based on the information received to date from the claimant.
- 2.14 No claim forms were received in relation to this category during the period 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021.
- 2.15 The file closure criteria described at paragraph 2.7 are also applied to these cases. During the period 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021, one claim was closed. £1,641 was paid in respect of NYP defence costs.

2.16 **Third Party Motor Claims**

The number of third party motor claims opened are set out below.

	01/04/20 - 30/06/20	01/07/20 - 30/09/20	01/10/20 - 31/12/20	01/01/21 - 31/03/21	01/04/21 - 30/06/21
Damage	4	14	5	23	10
Injury	0	2	0	4	1
Total	4	16	5	27	11

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2.17 The files opened in the period 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021 are currently estimated to represent a potential liability in damages of £19,537. The potential liability in respect of claimant solicitor's costs is £2,000 and for NYP defence costs (Counsel, external solicitors and disbursements) is nil. These figures consist of payments made and professional estimates based on the information received to date from the claimant.

2.18 One claim form was received for cases in this category during the period 1 April 2021 to 3 June 2021.

2.19 The file closure criteria described at paragraph 2.7 are also applied to these cases. During the period 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021, 12 claims were closed. Payments made for these claims in respect of claimant damages amounted to £16,469. £9,793 was paid for these claims in respect of claimant solicitor's costs and £20,919 was paid in respect of NYP defence costs.

2.20 **Other Claims**

The number of other claims opened are set out below.

	01/04/20 - 30/06/20	01/07/20 - 30/09/20	01/10/20 - 31/12/20	01/01/21 - 31/03/21	01/04/21 - 30/06/21
Employment Tribunal	0	1	3	0	0
Judicial Review	0	1	3	0	1

2.21 During the period 1 April to 30 June 2021, five claims were closed.

2.22 **Open Cases**

I detail below all open cases as at 30 June 2021 (so, not just those opened in the previous quarter) which are being handled by Joint Corporate Legal Services, where a financial estimate has been allocated by the handler based on the information received to date. I have also specified whether the estimate would be met from the provision or revenue budget.

File Type	Number of Open Cases with Reserves	Estimate to be Paid from Provision £	Estimate to be Paid from Revenue £
Public Liability and Ex Gratia	52	506,070	16,865
Employers Liability	3	47,938	0
Third Party Motor	49	209,816	£10,996
Motor Own Damage	20	65,961	£13,833
Employment	19	378,228	7,500
Other	66	51,730	23,318
Total	209	1,259,743	72,512

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- 2.23 The other file type category includes Civil Orders, for example Dangerous Dogs, Domestic Violence Protection, Cash Seizure, Sexual Harm Prevention and Sexual Risk, Estates, Disclosure, Firearms Licensing, Inquests, Judicial Review, Operational Advice and Enquiries.
- 2.24 Not all of these files will be settled in the current financial year and some claims may be successfully defended with no payments made.

3. Proposals / Recommendations Requiring a Decision

- 3.1 There are no proposals/recommendations requiring a decision.

4. Consultations Carried Out

- 4.1 No consultation has been carried out, as the paper is for information only.

Report Information

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