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How many Solicitors were there in CEC Legal Services in FY 22/23, 23/24 and 24/25?

The number of Solicitors at the end of each of the periods under question was 37 (including 2 trainee Solicitors). There were minor variances during the overall period due to a small number of leavers and joiners.

What was the total internal cost of Solicitors in Legal Services in FY 22/23, 23/24 and 24/25?

The table below notes the costs in each period:

	FY22/23	FY23/24	FY24/25
Salaries + oncosts	£2,185,335	£2,702,209	£2,731,108
Expenses	£3,747	£3,142	£1,562
Total	£2,189,082	£2,705,351	£2,732,670

Note:

- Oncosts includes pension costs.
- Expenses includes travel, training and conference attendance. Solicitors are encouraged to undertake free training wherever possible, with paid for training being specialist in nature.

What was the total external spend for Legal Services in FY 22/23, 23/24 and 24/25?

FY22/23 = £1,954,013; FY23/24 = £1,647,755; FY24/25 = £3,162,716

Note: The external expenditure in FY24/25 includes a significant amount of spend in relation to the Council's litigation against its former legal adviser on the original tram project. This is the highest value claim ever raised in a Scottish court, with legal fees commensurate with its value and complexity.

External expenditure also includes third party fees including property related-fees and court mandated expenses.