

LONDON - SCU

25 OCT 2011

RECEIVED



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 Special Cases Unit  
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F A O John Baker

Our Ref: 558203/000001/JCW/RICHARD/LCR

Your Ref: 0207 718 8088

24 October 2011

Dear Mr Baker

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John".

**Our Client**

**Mrs Gladys Mabel Richards (deceased)**

Thank you for confirming that the Ministry of Justice have granted Public Funding for Inquest representation in this matter. We are very grateful for your patient help. We anticipate that you will have received a copy of the letter from the Ministry of Justice dated 3 October 2011 but enclose a copy in case it did not arrive safely.

There has been a separate development, which relates to the Coroner's availability. We have been informed that he has had to adjourn the Inquest and will relist this in the New Year, possibility in March or April 2012. We would not anticipate the date being set back any further than then.

We will write to you as soon as we receive the new Inquest Hearing date.

Thank you again for your help which is much appreciated. We look forward to discussing matters in due course.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely

**Code A**

John White

Enc Letter from Ministry of Justice



Ministry of  
**JUSTICE**



Civil Legal Aid  
Ministry of Justice  
4.40 Petty France  
London  
SW1H 9AJ

T 0203 334 4235  
F 0203 334 6457

E Code A

[www.justice.gov.uk](http://www.justice.gov.uk)

Blake Laphorn  
DX 155850 Eastleigh 7

Our ref: SF/6(8)(b)/Mac  
Your ref: 558203/000001/JCW/RICHARD/JDB

3 October 2011

Dear Sirs,

**Application for exceptional funding under Section 6(8)(b) of the Access to Justice Act 1999 – Gillian MacKenzie**

You made an application for exceptional funding to the Legal Services Commission (LSC), on behalf of your client, Mrs MacKenzie, for legal representation at the inquest into the death of her mother, Mrs Gladys Richards. The LSC requested that the matter be considered by the Lord Chancellor. I am writing to let you know the decision that Jonathan Djanogly, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, has taken on the Lord Chancellor's behalf. There has been some delay in dealing with this application, and I can only offer my sincere apologies, on behalf of the Department, for the length of time that this process has taken.

I am pleased to be able to inform you that the LSC has been authorised to grant funding of £15,500.00 + VAT pro rata, based on a 10-day inquest in this case. This grant of funding is backdated to 22 April 2009. We will assume that you accept this offer of funding, unless we hear to the contrary. The costs of £27,391.65 + VAT which you have claimed have been reduced, as they were excessive. We have reduced the number of hours payable in certain categories. We have also corrected the rates claimed for travel and waiting, for which uplifts are not applicable. In addition, we have allowed uplifts of 50% for the senior solicitor and solicitor preparation and attendance costs. A summary of the approved costs is set out at the end of this letter (rounded up to £15,500 + VAT).

The LSC's Special Cases Unit (SCU) has been authorised to deal with future management of this case, including arrangements for assessment and payment, and all future correspondence should be addressed directly to them. Any requests for an extension of the grant should be submitted to the SCU. Your bill will be subject to assessment by the LSC at the end of the case.

As you will know, the Lord Chancellor's guidance sets out requirements for exceptional funding in a case such as this. The client must be financially eligible, or the case must be suitable for a waiver of the financial eligibility limits, and there must be no alternative source of funding. Furthermore, the circumstances of the death must appear to be such that funded representation for the family is necessary to enable the coroner to conduct

**Table of approved costs****22 April 2009-12 April 2011**

Senior solicitor preparation	16 hours @ £79.50	£1,272.00
Senior solicitor attendance	19 hours @ £63.50	£1,206.50
Senior solicitor travel/waiting	3.2 hours @ £24.75	£79.20
Solicitor preparation	2 hours @ £67.50	£135.00

**12 April 2011 onwards**

Senior solicitor preparation	15 hours @ £79.50	£1,192.50
Senior solicitor attendance	14 hours @ £63.50	£889.00
Solicitor attendance	56 hours @ £51.00	£2,856.00
Senior solicitor travel/waiting	8 hours @ £24.75	£198.00
Solicitor travel/waiting	8 hours @ £24.75	£198.00
Counsel attendance at PIH		£500.00
Counsel Brief fee		£2,000.00
Counsel refresher fees	9 x £500.00	£4,500.00
Counsel travel/waiting	9 hours @ £24.75	£223.00
Reasonable expenses		£245.00

**Total costs authorised by MoJ  
(excluding VAT)**

**£15,500.00**