



CROWN OFFICE  
25 CHAMBERS STREET  
EDINBURGH EH1 1LA

Telephone: 0300 020 3000

5 June 2024

Dear Convener,

### **Ongoing litigation in relation to prosecutions in connection with the acquisition and administration of Rangers Football Club**

I refer to previous correspondence relating to the ongoing litigation arising from the prosecution of various individuals in connection with the acquisition and administration of Rangers Football Club. As Solicitor General for Scotland, I have been issuing instructions to the independent legal team and counsel advising on these cases. This note is to provide an update in respect of the civil action raised by Imran Ahmad against the Lord Advocate.

Mr Ahmad raised an action against the Lord Advocate in February 2019 seeking damages for reparation for loss of earnings and damage to reputation as a result of malicious prosecution. Mr Ahmad's claim was for £2 million. On 28 September 2020 the former Lord Advocate, James Wolffe KC made a qualified admission of liability. An apology was issued to Mr Ahmad in June 2021, and in April 2022 the claim was adjusted to £60 million.

A proof before answer was heard by Lord Harrower in the Outer House, Court of Session between 1-10 March 2023 in respect of quantum of damages only, with submissions heard on 29 March 2023.

The judgment has now been published and may be found at the following link [2024csoh23.pdf \(scotcourts.gov.uk\)](#)

Lord Harrower has awarded damages to Mr Ahmad under the following heads of loss as follows:

<b>Head of Loss</b>	<b>Award (£)</b>
Legal expenses	22,026
Interest on legal expenses	8% from 1 October 2015
Solatium	40,000
Interest on solatium	4% on 30,000 from 2 September 2015 to date of decree and 8% thereafter
Loss of salary and benefits at Proton	Nil



Loss of commission	219,000 or such other sum as may be appropriate to take account of tax
Interest on loss of commission	4% on 219,000 (or such other sum as may be appropriate to take account of tax) from 1 March 2016 until 1 March 2017 and 8% thereafter
Sale of founder and growth shares	Nil
Loss of business opportunity	176,000
Interest on loss of business opportunity	4% on 132,000 from 2 September 2015 to date of decree and 8% thereafter

A further hearing took place on 27 March 2024 for the court to hear submissions from both parties on the appropriate terms of the court interlocutor recording the decision.

Lord Harrower's Opinion has now been published and may be found at the following link; [2024csoh54.pdf \(scotcourts.gov.uk\)](https://scotcourts.gov.uk/2024csoh54.pdf)

Lord Harrower has granted decree for payment to the pursuer by the Lord Advocate of the sum of £516,755.61, with interest to run at the judicial rate from 15 March 2024 until payment. Except insofar as expenses have already been dealt with, and with the specific exception of the expenses occasioned by the by order hearing of 27 March 2024, in respect of which the court has not yet heard from parties, and which are therefore reserved, Lord Harrower has found the Lord Advocate liable to the pursuer in the expenses of process subject to a restriction of 50%. Lord Harrower has refused the Lord Advocate's motion for expenses. Lord Harrower has certified the pursuer's expert witnesses as skilled persons.

Following the decision on 4 June 2024, parties will have 21 days to reclaim the decision.

I shall be carefully considering the content of the Opinion over the coming days. There remains ongoing the independent consideration by Shelagh McCall KC of allegations of criminal conduct during the original investigation and prosecution. Both the Lord Advocate and I are committed to further accountability and a process of inquiry once all legal proceedings have concluded.

I will provide further briefing as matters progress.



Yours sincerely

*RB Chatteris*

Solicitor General for Scotland