



Inquiry into Appropriation Bill 2026–2027 and Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2026–2027

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Mr Thomas Emerson MLA

Addressed to: ACT Government Solicitor

Redirected to:

Reference: 2026-27 Budget Estimates

Hearing: 21 July 2026

In relation to: Medical negligence claims

Question received: 22/07/2026

Answer Due: 05/08/2026

How much has the ACT Government spent on legal costs, damages and settlements in relation to medical negligence claims each financial year for the last three financial years?

PETER GARRISSON: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Amounts payable by the ACT Government on medical negligence claims are generally covered by the Territory's insurance arrangements. In instances where the amount payable is below the insurance excess then the Directorate meets those costs.

Costs associated with the provision of legal services by the ACT Government Solicitor are met through controlled recurrent payment from the appropriation for Output 1.2 and cost recovered from ACT Insurance Authority (ACTIA).

The table below provides a breakdown of the legal costs, settlements and damages paid by ACTIA in relation to medical negligence claims for the last three years.

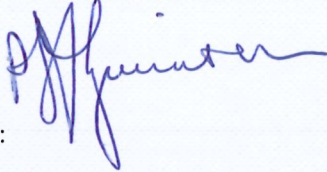
	2025-26	2024-25	2023-24
Damages and Settlements*	\$51,853,675.41	\$30,110,917.40	\$21,324,744.83
Legal costs	\$8,852,994.76	\$9,016,933.73	\$7,316,711.21

OFFICIAL

*The figures relate to payments made in the last three financial years. This includes claims that have been paid in these years only and bear no connection to the policy period in which the claim arose.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2026–2027

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Garrison', written over a faint horizontal line.

Date:

10/8/26

By the Solicitor-General for the ACT, Peter Garrison AM SC