



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: Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services

Reference: ACT Policing

Hearing: 28/07/2026

In relation to: Civil Cases

Question received: 28/07/2026

Answer Due: 12/08/2026

- (1) How many civil cases is ACT Policing (or the AFP) currently a respondent to?
- (2) How many civil cases has ACT Policing been a respondent to in the last five financial years?
- (3) How many of these cases relate to use of force?
- (4) Of these cases, how many have been settled out of court?
- (5) Can you provide a breakdown and total cost of any settlements, legal costs and related damages of civil cases related to use of force in the last five financial years?

Dr Marisa Paterson MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

- 1) As at 6 August 2026, the AFP is a named respondent in 29 civil proceedings filed in Court which relate to ACT Policing action. This figure does not include civil proceedings arising out of ACT Policing employment conditions, administrative law matters or other matters against the AFP.
- 2) Information for the past five financial years is not readily available and would be an unreasonable diversion of resources to collate the information. This is because the AFP has a wide variety of legal matters, and the methods of recording matters have been updated across the five-year period. To provide the requested information would involve manually reviewing numerous AFP files (physical and electronic) across a diverse range of matters to narrow to the specific parameters requested and would take a considerable amount of time.
- 3) Of the 29 civil proceedings currently before the Court, 18 involve claims that related to or include the use of force.
- 4) Please see the response at question 2.

5) Please see the response at question 2.

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

Signature: 

Date: 14/8/26

By the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services, Dr Marisa Paterson MLA