



Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023–2024

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Mr Peter Cain MLA

Addressed to: Peter Garrisson AM SC, ACT Solicitor-General

Reference: ACT Government Solicitor

Hearing: 18/02/2025

In relation to: ACT Government Solicitor and Case volume

Question received: 18/02/2025

Answer Due: 26/02/2025

1. How many cases did the ACT Government Solicitor defend in 2023-24?
2. Please provide a breakdown of the outcomes of the cases that the ACT Government Solicitor defended in 2023-24.
3. How many cases have the ACT Government Solicitor defended over the last five years?
4. Please provide a breakdown of the outcomes of the cases that the ACT Government Solicitor defended over the last five years.
5. How many cases have the ACT Government Solicitor defended over the last ten years?
6. Please provide a breakdown of the outcomes of the cases that the ACT Government Solicitor defended over the last ten years.

MR PETER GARRISSON AM SC: The answers to the Member's questions are as follows:

1. Data extraction to disaggregate matters where the Territory is defendant versus plaintiff would be manual and resource intensive. However, there were 1,325, matters involving recorded activity by the ACT Government Solicitor (ACTGS) associated with litigation over the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024. These matters encompass a broad range of claims and disputes in various courts and tribunals.

The litigation activity relates to areas such as:

Constitutional	Property or construction
Regulatory (for example related to planning, revenue, trees, dogs)	Personal injury claims (public liability and medical negligence)

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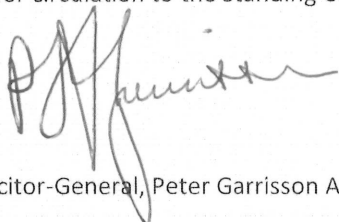
Employment and industrial relations	Commercial
Public law	Property damage claims against the ACT
Child welfare	Other claims by/against the ACT
Discrimination/human rights	

- 2. The ACTGS is unable to provide the outcome of matters where the Territory was the defendant versus the plaintiff to do so would be manual and resources intensive.
- 3. The table below provides details of the approximate number of litigation matters involving recorded activity over the last five years:

2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
1,325	1,215	1,036	1,041	1,163

- 4. The ACTGS is unable to provide the outcome of matters where the Territory was the defendant versus the plaintiff over the last five years to do so would be manual and resources intensive.
- 5. The ACTGS is unable to response to the aspect of the member’s question for the time period as to do so would be manual and labour intensive.
- 6. The ACTGS is unable to response to the aspect of the member’s question for the time period as to do so would be manual and labour intensive.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs

Signature: 
By the Solicitor-General, Peter Garrisson AM SC

Date: 26/2/25