

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mrs Finocchiaro to the Minister for Health:

Staff Stress

1. According to the Global Question answers 79 stress claims were lodged by employees in the reporting period - what has been the cost of these claims to the agency during 2017/18?
2. How much time was lost due to the claims which were accepted?
3. How many employees remain on leave due to stress?
4. How many claims of bullying were lodged by employees of the agency during 2017/18?
5. What action has been taken as a result of these claims and how many are outstanding?
6. What are the details for any compensation payouts by the agency – no names, just the approximate circumstances of each case. For example “compensation for a preventable work injury”.

1. According to the Global Question answers 79 stress claims were lodged by employees in the reporting period - what has been the cost of these claims to the agency during 2017/18?

There was a total of 79 worker compensation claims received from NT Health staff during the period 1 July 2017 to 31 March 2018, of which eight were stress related (refer to response to written question 199, sub question 49).

Total claim costs for the eight stress claims across NT Health, inclusive of the Department of Health, Top End Health Service and Central Australia Health Service, was \$277 784.

2. How much time was lost due to the claims which were accepted?

Data is unable to be provided in response to this question.

3. How many employees remain on leave due to stress?

Four employees across the Department of Health, Top End Health Service and Central Australia Health Service remain on leave for stress claims lodged in the period 1 July 2017 to 31 March 2018.

4. How many claims of bullying were lodged by employees of the agency during 2017/18?

During 2017/18 there were 12 claims of bullying lodged across NT Health.

5. What action has been taken as a result of these claims and how many are outstanding

None of the 12 matters are outstanding. Varying actions have been taken to resolve matters utilising the Department's Employee Internal Complaints Policy and Guidelines, which aim to resolve matters promptly and at the local level where possible.

6. What are the details for any compensation payouts by the agency – no names, just the approximate circumstances of each case. For example “compensation for a preventable work injury”

Compensation payouts inclusive of permanent impairment lump sums paid during the period 1 July 2017 to 31 March 2018, totaled \$3 561 759:

- Injuries sustained by an animal - \$83 663
- Aggression - \$194 266
- Mental factors - \$2 311 888
- Muscular stress - \$971 942