

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Stirling

to Minister for Health, Family and Children's Services

Territory Health Services Legal Costs

1. Have any costs have been incurred by Territory Health Services in defending legal actions against Northern Territory hospitals in the following financial years:
 - (a) 1994-95;
 - (b) 1995-96; and
 - (c) 1996-97.
2. If the answer to question 1 is yes, what are the amounts for each hospital.
3. Have any costs been incurred by Territory Health Services in the form of compensation to clients of Northern Territory hospitals in the following financial years:
 - (a) 1994-95;
 - (b) 1995-96; and
 - (c) 1996-97.
4. If the answer to question 3 is yes, what was:
 - (a) the basis of each legal action; and
 - (b) the amount of costs expended in each instance.

Please note, it is not expected that names of individuals be referred to in respect of question 4.

ANSWER

See Attachment.

RESPONSE TO WRITTEN QUESTION NO 17

1. Yes to (a), (b) and (c).

2.

	Alice Springs Hospital	Royal Darwin Hospital
1994/95	\$875	\$30,861
1995/96	\$4,550	\$99,457
1996/97	\$1,314	\$73,524

3. Yes to (a), (b) and (c).

4.

Financial Year	Basis of each Legal Action	Costs Expended
1994/95	Negligence	\$500
	Negligence	\$400,000
	Negligence	\$35,150
1995/96	Negligence	\$358
	Negligence	\$116,342
	Negligence	\$15,000
	Negligence	\$401,614
	Negligence	\$20,000
	Negligence	\$3,000
	Negligence	\$25,000
	Negligence	\$500,000
	Negligence	\$44,000
	Negligence	\$16,000
	Negligence	\$3,380
	Negligence	\$125,472
	Negligence	\$3,000
1996/97	Public Liability	\$62,638
	Public Liability	\$149
	Public Liability	\$865
	Negligence	\$15,000
	Negligence	\$350,000
	Negligence	\$90,000
	Negligence	\$12,500
	Negligence	\$300,000
	Negligence	\$5,000
	Negligence	\$2,000
	Negligence	\$77,500
	Public Liability	\$3,000