

# ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

## Question Taken on Notice

**Question Number:** 5.12

**Output Number:** 3.2

**Date:** 16/06/2025

**From:** Mr Matthew Kerle

**To:** Hon Marie-Clare Boothby

**Portfolio:** Attorney-General

**Agency:** Attorney-General's Department

**Subject:** Number of coronial inquiries completed and cost of inquiries

### QUESTION:

How many coronials were completed during the reporting period, and how much did the Walker and the domestic violence coronials cost? Could you also include the median cost of coronials in the reporting period?

### ANSWER:

Median data is not available as the Attorney-General's Department does not typically identify and attribute the costs of its staff and resources to specific coronials. However, average costs can be calculated from aggregate data.

**TABLE 1 - AVERAGE COST OF CORONIALS <sup>A</sup>**

Reporting Period	Total Cost <sup>B</sup> \$m	Coronials Finalised <sup>C</sup> (number)	Average Cost per Coronal <sup>D</sup> \$
2023-24	2,339.390	338	6,921
2024-25 <sup>^</sup>	1,731,990	283	6,120

<sup>A</sup> Includes cost of Walker and DV Coronials in Table 2 for 2023-24 and 2024-25.

<sup>B</sup> Cost of Coronal function funded by appropriation – Direct and Indirect costs including personnel and operational expenditure.

<sup>C</sup> Coronials finalised in the reporting period.

<sup>D</sup> B and C = D

**TABLE 2 - COST OF WALKER AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (DV) CORONIALS <sup>E, F & G</sup>**

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25 <sup>^</sup>	Total
Walker	\$148,910	\$1,329,990	\$235,460	\$203,500	\$1,917,860
DV Inquest	\$0	\$0	\$373,770	\$123,870	\$497,640

<sup>E</sup> Expenditure relating to these coronials have been identified through the creation of separate cost centres. Separate cost centres are created for coronials with significant budget implications.

<sup>F</sup> The expenditure identified relates to direct expenditure incurred by the Coroner's Office for these Coronials. This includes assisting counsel, dedicated Local Court staff, travel, accommodation and associated costs. It does not include costs incurred by the Coroner to undertake business as usual/other activities, other Attorney-General's Department division coronial costs or other NT Government department coronial costs.

<sup>G</sup> NT Police Force advise they have spent \$5,495,078 million on the Walker Coronal.

<sup>^</sup> Reporting period is from 1 July 2024 to 31 March 2025.