

House of Lords
Written answer
14 May 2024

Health Services: Legal Representation

Asked by Lord Hunt of Kings Heath

To ask His Majesty's Government what was the annual spend by the health service on legal representation at inquests in the previous five years for which information is available.
[HL3750]

Lord Markham: NHS Resolution manages clinical negligence and other claims against the National Health Service in England. The following table shows the amounts paid in accordance with the rules of the Clinical Negligence Scheme for Trusts (CNST), to support trusts at inquests and for associated costs to investigate entitlement to compensation, in the last five years:

Payment Raised Year	Amount
2018/19	£2,968,153
2019/20	£2,223,095
2020/21	£1,614,820
2021/22	£1,545,135
2022/23	£1,623,211
Total	£9,974,414

Source: NHS Resolution

The CNST handles all clinical negligence claims against member NHS bodies where the incident in question took place on or after 1 April 1995, or when the body joined the scheme if that is later. NHS Resolution is not involved in any arrangements that an individual trust might make outside of the scheme.

Information on the total spend by NHS trusts regarding coroner's inquests is not collated or held centrally.