



forestry, fisheries & the environment

Department:
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Ref: O2/1/5/2

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

(For written reply)

QUESTION NO. 3202 {NW4275E}

INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 34 of 2023

DATE OF PUBLICATION: 13 October 2023

Mr D W Bryant (DA) to ask the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment:

What (a) total amount was spent on litigation by the Department of Fisheries (i) in the (aa) 2019-20, (bb) 2020-21, (cc) 2021-22 and (dd) 2022-23 financial years and (ii) since 1 April 2023 and (b) are the relevant (i) case numbers and (ii) parties to the litigation in each case?

3202. THE MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT REPLIES:

The figures provided below relate to payments made during a particular financial year, notwithstanding the year in which the process was served. This is because the State Attorney pays counsel appointed directly and claims back from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) from Agency Services within the national Department of Justice and Constitutional Development.

It should also be noted that from 1 April 2021 DFFE took over payments for legal services relating to fisheries and forestry cases, accounting for the increase in legal fees in the 202/2022 financial year.


(a) (i) (aa –dd) and (ii)

The table below provides details on the amount spent by the DFFE on litigation costs for the following financial years:

Financial year	Total amount (R)
2019/2020	7 565 447,97
2020/2021	7 615 205,07
2021/2022	13 492 169,96
2022/2023	19 315 186,71
1 April 2023 to date	15 180 840,12

(b) (i) and (ii)

For the specific details in relation to the specific case and case number, please see attached Annexures A, B, C, D and E.


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MS B D CREECY, MP
MINISTER OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT
DATE: 25/10/2023