

WPQ 9327 (2026) Tables:

Contextual Note: Legal expenditure is managed independently by each department and entity. The Ministry for the Environment and the Environmental Protection Authority record and categorise external legal costs using different internal accounting practices. In particular, the EPA records a portion of its external legal expenditure as general legal advice, which cannot be reliably disaggregated into specific categories. Figures are therefore presented separately for each entity.

Ministry for the Environment:

External Legal Costs by Nature of Work	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26 (as at 28 Feb 2026)	Total
Commercial legal support	\$33,442	\$86,415	\$38,587	\$16,454	\$57,303	\$58,013	\$290,214
HR Support	-	\$21,838	\$9,451	\$20,233	\$19,756	\$102,573	\$173,850
Legal advice to external body	-	\$5,000	-	-	-	-	\$5,000
Legal support to legislative programme or operational matters	\$1,369,251	\$2,458,179	\$2,539,848	\$2,352,008	\$2,926,016	\$2,143,495	\$13,788,796
Litigation support	-	-	-	\$33,432	\$10,908	-	\$44,339
Litigation Support for Fast Track Panel	-	-	\$81,956	\$99,488	\$107,140	\$23,010	\$311,594
Treaty Matters	\$39,704	\$89,213	\$233,592	\$228,064	\$920,111	\$611,995	\$2,122,679

Environmental Protection Authority:

External Legal Costs by Nature of Work	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26 (as at 28 Feb 2026)	Total
Litigation			\$66,356	\$106,571	\$189,897		\$362,824
Commercial			\$14,435				\$14,435
Employment	\$54,276	\$23,152	\$51,414	\$32,101	\$35,777	\$2,740	\$122,032
Other (general legal advice)	\$330,363	\$406,279	\$171,583	\$46,253	\$28,614		\$246,450