Written Question: 9449 (2026)

What external legal costs, if any, were incurred by any department or entity for which the Minister is responsible in each financial year since 2020/21, broken down by department or entity and by the nature of the legal work (litigation, commercial advice, employment matters, Treaty matters, or other)?

Answer:

I am advised that WorkSafe New Zealand has incurred legal costs of $21,692,185.11 since 2020/21. Refer to the table for the detail requested.

Financial year	**2020/21**	**2021/22**	**2022/23**	**2023/24**	**2024/25**	**2025/26†**
Litigation	$4,146,241.74	$4,504,071.18	$4,967,459.58	$3,318,704.78	$1,010,807.12	$599,632.80
Commercial	$70,490.73	$28,826.46	$26,479.28	$119,708.90	$99,308.82	$7,083.00
Employment	$216,525.18	$409,357.91	$95,817.30	$89,548.90	$527,071.67	$248,633.20
Other	$15,248.95	$1,050.00	$120,191.47	$129,306.15	$500,228.97	$440,391.02
Total	**$4,448,506.60**	**$4,943,305.55**	**$5,209,947.63**	**$3,657,268.73**	**$2,137,416.58**	**$1,295,740.02**

† year to date