

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 919**  
**Asked on 14 June 2011**

MR McARDLE asked the Minister for Health (MR WILSON)-

QUESTION:

Will the Minister detail the amount spent by Queensland Health on legal fees in 2008, 2009 and 2010 (reported separately)?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Caloundra for his question.

Queensland Health's priority is its patients and the frontline staff who treat them.

I am sure the member would agree that Queensland Health's clinicians deserve clear legal advice and protection.

Queensland Health workers make critical decisions every day, sometimes life and death, and the Queensland Health owes it to them to acquire clear and precise legal advice to support their work.

I am advised by Queensland Health that the costs of private legal representation are as follows:

1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 – \$4.9m (excl GST)

1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 - \$5.1m (excl GST)

I am further advised that these costs amount to approximately 0.05% of Queensland Health's budget each year.