

Question on Notice

No. 145

Asked on 5 March 2024

MS A CAMM ASKED THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE, MINISTER FOR PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE (HON Y D'ATH)

QUESTION:

Will the Attorney-General provide the average length of time for Victims Assist Queensland to pay financial benefits from the date an application is lodged (reported separately by type of benefit applied for) for the 2022-23 financial year, and this financial year to date?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Whitsunday for her question.

Victims Assist Queensland (VAQ) prioritises urgent medical treatment, funeral expenses, security and relocation expenses for domestic and family violence victims referred by High Risk Teams.

Urgent applications took an average of 49 days (1.6 months) to be decided in 2022-23 and are currently taking an average of 24 days to decide in 2023-24.

The wait times outlined below relate to applications received and decided in the 2022-23 and applications received in the 2022-23 and 2023-24 financial years and decided in the 2023-24 financial year.

The average wait time between VAQ receiving an application and processing a payment to a **related victim** (in relation to Homicide) was 1.8 months (54 days) in 2022-23 and 1.3 months (38 days) in 2023-24.

The average wait time between VAQ receiving an application and processing a payment to a **primary victim, which makes up 70% of the applications**, was 4.1 months (122 days) in 2022-23 and 2.4 months (71 days) in 2023-24.

The average wait time between VAQ receiving an application and processing a payment to a **parent secondary victim** was 5.8 months (174 days) in 2022-23 and 4.4 months (132 days) in 2023-24.

The average wait time between VAQ receiving an application and processing a payment to a **witness secondary victim** was 8 months (239 days) in 2022-23 and 4.1 months (123 days) in 2023-24.