

## House of Commons

### Written Answer

24 March 2020

### NHS: Negligence

#### **Fiona Bruce:**

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, how much compensation was paid from the public purse in (a) 2015, (b) 2016, (c) 2017, (d) 2018 and (e) 2019 for wrongful births. [32133]

#### **Ms Nadine Dorries:**

NHS Resolution manages clinical negligence and other claims against the National Health Service in England.

NHS Resolution have provided the following information:

NHS Resolution define “wrongful birth” as a clinical negligence claim brought by the parents of a child born with birth defects, alleging that negligent treatment or advice deprived them of the opportunity to avoid conception or terminate the pregnancy.

Number of Claims Closed/Settled with damages paid related to ‘Wrongful Birth’ per financial year

Year of closure (Settlement year for Periodical Payment Orders)	Number of Claims	Damages Paid £
2014/15	6	8,158,352
2015/16	13	17,313,513
2016/17	13	12,520,949
2017/18	16	13,363,110
2018/19	10	17,296,750

Note: The figures supplied are for each financial year rather than calendar year. The figures for the 2019/20 financial year are not yet available.