

House of Commons

Written answer

11 December 2020

Coroners

Mr David Lammy:

[122560]

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, how much NHS trusts have spent on legal representation, preparation and counsel for coroner's inquests in each year since 2013.

Ms Nadine Dorries:

Information on the total spend by National Health Service trusts regarding coroner's inquests is not collated or held centrally. However, NHS Resolution, which handles clinical negligence claims for NHS bodies in England, has provided the following annual figures for inquest payments it has made on behalf of trusts as part of managing their clinical negligence claims.

INQUEST PAYMENTS

Financial year	Total
2013/14	£907,055
2014/15	£138,879
2015/16	£3,022,924
2016/17	£1,340,977
2017/18	£1,684,258
2018/19	£2,968,153
2019/20	£2,223,580
Grand Total	£12,285,826

Payments were made by NHS Resolution in accordance the rules of the Clinical Negligence Scheme for Trusts to support trusts at inquests and for associated costs to investigate entitlement to compensation. NHS Resolution has no involvement in any arrangements that an individual trust might make outside of the scheme.