



Committee	Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services
Inquiry	Oversight of ASIC, the Takeovers Panel and the Corporations Legislation
Question No.	091
Topic	CDPP referrals
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Committee member	Senator O'NEILL

Question

CHAIR: I'll just ask a couple of quick questions, following up from our earlier session. We were discussing the trying of criminal and civil matters. Could I ask you to take on notice—we probably need to send this same question to the CDPP—how much has been expended by ASIC per annum over the last five or six years in matters that have been referred to the CDPP, and how much has the CDPP paid to advance matters? I'm just trying to get a scale of the investment in litigation.

Answer

In the financial years 2018-19 to 2023-24 (to 31 March 2024), the indicative total expenditure in relation to matters where at least one person of interest was referred to the CDPP was \$101.8 million.

The table below does not include expenditure on investigation of matters we suspect may have involved criminal conduct but where no referral to the CDPP was made. For example, costs incurred in investigating a matter where the criminal evidentiary burden has not been satisfied. The table also does not include expenditure on matters that are yet to be referred to the CDPP.

Table 1: Indicative total expenditure on matters referred to the CDPP

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 (31 Mar)	Total
Indicative total expenditure (\$)	\$12.2m	\$21.6m	\$23.5m	\$21.9m	\$15.1m	\$7.5m	\$101.8m

Note regarding data limitations:

Total expenses incurred on matters referred to the CDPP reflects the sum of staff and supplier costs attributed to a unique finance code that is created for each matter.

A number of matters referred to the CDPP from ASIC's Small Business Enforcement team have not been included as they do not have a unique finance code. It is not possible to disaggregate the staff and supplier costs for each matter from this team's cost centre.

It is also important to note that matters typically run across multiple financial years, therefore some of the matters referred to the CDPP in the reporting period would have commenced and incurred expenses prior to the period.