

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 325

Mr M J Cuthbert (DA) to ask the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition:

What total amount has the National Lotteries Commission spent on (a) lawyers and consultants' fees to seek legal advice and opinions against the media, politicians and/or political parties and staff members and (b) litigation from 1 April 2019 to date?NW446E

REPLY:

I have been advised by the National Lotteries Commission (NLC) as follows.

(a) The cost relating to reputational risk matters is all encompassing, that is, it includes, the legal risks management fees, legal advice / legal opinions. Reputational risk matters are line items within an all-encompassing invoice. The table below lists costs associated with seeking legal advice and opinions against the media, politicians and/or political parties and staff members:

No.	DESCRIPTION		COSTS (R)			
		2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	
1.	Handling of reputational risk matters	1 284 148	2 108 362	1 233 674	-	
2.	Governance matters - (Release of Investigation Report)	-	244 548	-	-	
TOTAL		1 284 148	2 352 910	1 233 674	-	

The cost of Legal and consultants' costs incurred (including legal opinions solicited, consultations on all matters relating to advice and costs of litigation as well as drafting of any letters on behalf of the Commission, the Commissioner, Staff members and Board members) to cover inter alia matters relating directly or indirectly to the Ministry, any media house or journalist and parliamentarian:

Year		COSTS (R)		
	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
TOTAL	1 622 994	-	1 180 410	-

Year	COSTS (R)	COSTS (R)	COSTS (R)	COSTS (R)	COSTS (R)	COSTS (R)
	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
Total	8 705 286	12 552 525	11 620 405	10 085 125	17 366 261	9 568 835

(b) Litigation from 1 April 2019 to date

-END-