

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings February 2016

Communications Portfolio

Australian Film Television and Radio School

Question No: 206(h)

Australian Film Television and Radio School

Hansard Ref: Written, 19/02/16

Topic: Legal Costs

Senator Ludwig, Joe asked:

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. List all legal costs incurred by the department or agency
2. List the total cost for these items, broken down by source of legal advice, hours retained or taken to prepare the advice and the level of counsel used in preparing the advice, whether the advice was internal or external
3. List cost spend briefing Counsel, broken down by hours spent briefing, whether it was direct or indirect briefing, the gender ratio of Counsel, how each Counsel was engaged (departmental, ministerial)
4. How was each piece of advice procured? Detail the method of identifying legal advice

Answer:

1 & 2: The following legal costs were incurred

Internal: \$56,500 for a female in-house lawyer

External: \$5,751 to supplement our in-house lawyer as required

Legal firm	Subject Matter	Gender	Level	Duration	Rate	Cost	Total cost
Fragomen Global	Advice on repatriation of CEO	Female					2,812.50
Herbert Smith Freehills	Advice on scholarships and philanthropy	Female		1:15	830	1,037.50	1,037.50
Australian Government Solicitor	Remuneration advice	Male	Senior Executive Lawyer	0:25	504	210.00	1,901.00
Australian Government Solicitor	Remuneration advice	Female	Senior Executive Lawyer	3:00	445	1,335.00	
Australian Government Solicitor	Remuneration advice	Male	Senior Executive Lawyer	0:48	445	356.00	
							<u>5,751.00</u>

3. Nil.

4. In accordance with Legal Services Directions and known specialities, and AFTRS Administrative Orders.