

**Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio  
2015-16 Additional Budget Estimates  
11 February 2016

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**DEPARTMENT:** DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

**TOPIC:** Legal Costs

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Ludwig

**QUESTION No.:** AI-83

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**

The Department:

- publishes its annual legal services expenditure on its website; and
- reports detailed information on its legal services expenditure to the Office of Legal Services Coordination in accordance with the requirements of the Legal Services Directions 2005. This information is provided by the end of August each year.

The Attorney-General's Department publishes an annual report which provides consolidated information on agency legal services expenditure across the Commonwealth. The report is available at the following website:

[www.ag.gov.au/Publications/Pages/CommonwealthLegalServicesExpenditure.aspx](http://www.ag.gov.au/Publications/Pages/CommonwealthLegalServicesExpenditure.aspx).