

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

4 – 6 June 2013

Question: BET 848-851

Topic: Legal Costs

Written: 17 June 2013

Senator BUSHBY asked:

848. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
849. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
850. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
851. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

**Financial year to date – 31 May 2013*

Answer:

848. The expenditure on legal services within the ACCC for the period from 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013 was \$7,982,582. This is comprised of staffing and associated costs for the Legal Group.
849. The ACCC's expenditure on legal services from the Australian Government Solicitor for the period from 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013 was \$15,257,388. This is comprised of expenditure on Professional Service Fees in the amount of \$10,993,299 and Legal Counsel Fees of \$4,264,089.
850. The ACCC's expenditure on legal services from private firms for the period 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013 was \$7,729,832. This is comprised of expenditure on Professional Service Fees in the amount of \$5,635,518, and Legal Counsel Fees of \$2,094,314.
851. The ACCC's expenditure on legal services from other sources for the period 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013 was \$101,792. This is comprised of expenditure on Direct Briefed Counsel Fees in the amount of \$98,230 and Legal Services from the Office of Parliamentary Counsel in the amount of \$3,562.