

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

2014 - 2015

Department/Agency: ACNC

Question: SBT4021-4024

Topic: Legal Costs

Reference: Written - 19 December 2014

Senator: Ludwig, Joe

Question:

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014:

- 4021. List all legal costs incurred by the department or agency
- 4022. 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
- 4023. 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)
- 4024. How was each piece of advice procured? Detail the method of identifying legal advice

Answer:

4021. The ACNC spent a total of \$27,958 on legal advice during this period.

4022. List below:

Legal Advice: Advice on the Information Technology contract

Cost: \$8,758

Hours Retained: 21 hours

Source of Legal Advice: Ashurst

Level of Counsel: Various - from Graduate to Partner

Internal or External Advice: External

Legal Advice: Commissioner's Interpretation Statement

Cost: \$19,200

Hours Retained: Flat-fee

Level of Counsel: Partner with Specialist Knowledge

Internal or External Advice: External

4023. N/A