

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

Cross Portfolio

DEEWR Question No. EW0046_14

Senator Back provided in writing.

Question

Cost of legal services 2012/13 FYTD

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.

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.

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.

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.

Answer

For the period 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013 the spend on legal services from in-house areas for the Department and statutory agencies was:

DEEWR	\$18,308,777
Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	\$0
Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Limited	\$0
Comcare	\$7,005,944
Fair Work Building & Construction	\$3,360,606
Fair Work Commission	\$138,123
Fair Work Ombudsman	\$7,215,621
Safe Work Australia	\$460,046

For the period 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013 the spend on legal services from the Australian Government Solicitor for the Department and statutory agencies was:

DEEWR	\$845,594
Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	\$113,096
Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Limited	\$0
Comcare	\$4,777,040
Fair Work Building & Construction	\$477,447
Fair Work Commission	\$273,200
Fair Work Ombudsman	\$229,019
Safe Work Australia	\$0

For the period 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013 the spend on legal services from private firms for the Department and statutory agencies was:

DEEWR	\$697,376
Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	\$16,500
Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Limited	\$113,463
Comcare	\$6,485,604
Fair Work Building & Construction	\$1,970,285
Fair Work Commission	\$504,509
Fair Work Ombudsman	\$907,511
Safe Work Australia	\$27,914

For the period 1 July 2012 to 31 May 2013 the spend on legal services from other sources for the Department and statutory agencies was:

DEEWR	\$152,343
Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority	\$0
Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Limited	\$0
Comcare	\$290,866
Fair Work Building & Construction	\$694,002
Fair Work Commission	\$470,197
Fair Work Ombudsman	\$1,097,002
Safe Work Australia	\$0

The Department and its statutory agencies obtain legal services on the full range of matters within their jurisdiction.