

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates May 2017

**Department of Agriculture and Water Resources**

**Question Number:** 153

**Division/Agency:** Office of the General Counsel

**Topic:** Legal costs

**Proof Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator STERLE asked:**

1. What was the Department's total spend on external legal services (including services provided by the Australian Government Solicitor) (GST inclusive) for calendar year 2016?
2. Can an itemised list of costs of each legal matter (GST inclusive) please be provided?
3. Can a list of relevant Contract Notices published on Austender please be provided?

**Answer:**

1. For the period 1 January 2016 – 31 December 2016, the Department's total spend on external legal services (including services provided by the Australian Government Solicitor) was \$2,661,547.68 inclusive of GST.
2. Under the *Legal Services Directions 2005*, agencies are required to report legal services expenditure figures for the financial year to the Office of Legal Service Coordination (OLSC) by 30 August each year. Legal expenditure for the Department has been calculated consistently with the methodology for calculating legal expenditure for the OLSC. To require the Department to review and provide itemised detail of all legal matters and expenditure in the relevant period may amount to an unreasonable diversion of departmental resources.
3. A list of relevant Contract Notices published on Austender for the period 1 January 2016 – 31 December 2016 is contained at Attachment A.

Legal Services Contracts Reported on AusTender  
Period 1 January 2016 - 31 December 2016

Contract Notice ID	Standing Offer Number	Supplier Name	Description	Category	Confidentiality (Contracts)	Confidentiality (Outputs)	Start Date	End Date	Value (AUD)	Procurement ID
CN3312440		Australian Government Solicitor	Legal services	Legal services	N	N	4-Jan-16	31-Jan-16	10,000.00	23070
CN3312444		Australian Government Solicitor	Legal services	Legal services	N	N	4-Jan-16	31-Jan-16	10,000.00	23071
CN3317360		Australian Government Solicitor	Legal services	Legal services	N	N	22-Jan-16	21-Mar-16	16,346.00	23148
CN3318527	SON1295651	Maddocks	Legal services	Legal services	N	N	7-Jan-16	29-Apr-16	150,000.00	23177
CN3321606	SON1295611	Australian Government Solicitor	Legal advice	Legal services	N	N	22-Jan-16	25-Feb-16	17,000.00	23211
CN3321938		Maddocks	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	3-Feb-16	30-Jun-19	22,000.00	23171
CN3325213		Clayton Utz	Legal advice	Legal services	N	N	4-Mar-16	20-May-16	12,500.00	23286
CN3326402	SON1295651	Maddocks	Legal services	Legal services	N	N	26-Feb-16	31-Aug-16	15,320.50	23207
CN3330210		Australian Government Solicitor	Legal advice	Legal services	N	N	8-Mar-16	30-Jun-16	27,500.00	23303
CN3340663		Clayton Utz	Legal Advice	Legal services	N	N	26-Apr-16	29-Apr-16	13,200.00	23555
CN3340954	SON1295651	Ashurst Australia	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	26-Mar-16	26-May-17	10,000.00	23653
CN3346550	SON1295651	V Ahuja & Others	Legal services	Legal services	N	N	11-Apr-16	30-Jun-16	12,215.62	23422
CN3346603		Australian Government Solicitor	Legal services	Legal services	N	N	13-Jun-16	30-Dec-16	35,500.00	23478
CN3356817		Attorney-General's Department	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	18-Jun-16	31-Dec-16	25,000.00	23905
CN3356821		King & Wood Mallesons	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	24-Jun-16	12-Aug-16	187,000.00	23932
CN3356822		Clayton Utz	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	24-Jun-16	30-Jun-16	22,000.00	23931
CN3366868		Maddocks	Legal Matter	Legal services	N	N	1-Aug-16	9-Sep-16	18,180.00	24070
CN3367440	SON3366915	Maddocks	Provision of Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	8-Aug-16	30-Sep-16	16,310.00	24092
CN3368579		Australian Government Solicitor	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	24-May-16	31-Dec-16	66,400.00	23687
CN3368609		Russell Kennedy	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	5-Aug-16	3-Aug-18	53,000.00	24046
CN3369316		Australian Government Solicitor	Legal Services - Advice	Legal services	N	N	28-Jun-16	1-Jun-17	75,000.00	24050
CN3369844	SON3366915	Clayton Utz	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	12-Aug-16	31-Jan-17	213,675.00	24126
CN3371135		Office of Parliamentary Counsel	Legal Services	Legal services	Y	Y	4-Apr-16	3-Sep-16	120,000.00	24050
CN3374122	SON1295651	Ashurst Australia	Legal advice	Legal services	N	N	31-Aug-16	31-Dec-16	20,139.46	24191
CN3375244	SON3366925	Australian Government Solicitor	Legal advice	Legal services	N	N	6-Sep-16	30-Jun-18	268,450.00	24141
CN3375314	SON3366925	Australian Government Solicitor	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	7-Jul-16	31-Dec-16	15,800.00	24220
CN3375355	SON3366925	Australian Government Solicitor	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	11-Jun-16	30-Sep-16	22,000.00	24013
CN3376448	SON3366925	Australian Government Solicitor	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	24-Aug-16	30-Jun-17	20,000.00	24166
CN3376498	SON3366925	Australian Government Solicitor	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	24-Aug-16	30-Jun-17	20,000.00	24165
CN3376853	SON3366925	Clayton Utz	Legal Advice	Legal services	N	N	14-Sep-16	30-Jun-17	20,000.00	24257
CN3377002	SON3366925	Australian Government Solicitor	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	22-Aug-16	28-Oct-16	40,000.00	24109
CN3377207		Office of Parliamentary Counsel	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	1-Jul-16	31-Oct-16	17,000.00	24224
CN3377384		Australian Government Solicitor	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	18-Jul-16	31-Dec-16	31,300.00	23934
CN3378137		Australian Government Solicitor	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	29-Jun-16	30-Sep-16	11,298.00	24298
CN3378147		Australian Government Solicitor	Provision of Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	28-Jun-16	5-Aug-16	15,000.00	24064
CN3378192		Office of Parliamentary Counsel	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	5-Aug-16	31-Dec-16	30,000.00	24291
CN3378711		Australian Government Solicitor	Legal Advice	Legal services	Y	Y	16-Sep-16	31-Dec-16	20,000.00	24247
CN3381281	SON3366925	Australian Government Solicitor	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	30-Sep-16	14-Oct-16	10,000.00	24323
CN3381641	SON3366925	Ashurst Australia	Legal Advice	Legal services	N	N	15-Aug-16	30-Dec-16	20,000.00	24339
CN3384545		Australian Government Solicitors	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	12-Oct-16	12-Oct-17	15,000.00	24350
CN3384546		Australian Government Solicitors	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	18-Oct-16	31-Mar-17	218,812.00	24349
CN3389512	SON3366925	Australian Government Solicitor	Legal advice	Legal services	N	N	2-Nov-16	11-Dec-16	10,760.00	24476
CN3391116	SON3366925	Australian Government Solicitor	Legal service matter	Legal services	N	N	25-Nov-16	31-Mar-17	17,950.00	24509
CN3394518	SON3366925	King & Wood Mallesons	Legal Advice	Legal services	N	N	15-Dec-16	30-Jun-17	10,000.00	24605
CN3394522	SON3366925	King & Wood Mallesons	Legal advice.	Legal services	N	N	30-Nov-16	31-Jan-17	50,016.23	24587
CN3395204	SON3366925	Clayton Utz	Legal Advice	Legal services	N	N	24-Nov-16	30-Jun-17	19,000.00	24560
CN3396326		Australian Government Solicitor	Legal Services	Legal services	N	N	7-Dec-16	7-Dec-17	49,500.00	24639
CN3398939		Clayton Utz	Legal Advice	Legal services	N	N	9-Nov-16	30-Jun-17	27,000.00	24669
CN3399744	SON3366925	Ashurst	Legal services	Legal services	N	N	23-Dec-16	31-Dec-17	15,500.00	24690