

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Additional Estimates 2012

15 – 17 February 2012

**Question: AET 335 - 338**

**Topic: Legal Costs (AOFM)**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator BUSHBY asked:**

335. 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.
336. 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.
337. 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.
338. 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:**

335. For the period from 1 July 2011 to 31 January 2012 the AOFM spent \$215,109 on legal services. The nature of the legal services comprised advice on the application of legislation, probity auditing, development of contracts and assistance with contract negotiations with service providers.
336. For the period from 1 July 2011 to 31 January 2012 the AOFM spent \$40,430 on legal services from the Australian Government Solicitor. The nature of the legal services comprised advice on the application of legislation and probity auditing.
337. For the period from 1 July 2011 to 31 January 2012 the AOFM spent \$174,679 on legal services from private legal firms. The nature of the legal services comprised development of contracts and assistance with contract negotiations with service providers.
338. Nil.