

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio
Budget Estimates Hearing 2012-13
28 and 29 May 2012

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, SCIENCE, RESEARCH AND TERTIARY EDUCATION

TOPIC: Legal Costs

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Bushby

QUESTION No.: BI-196

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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

Please refer to AI-242 for costs from 1 July 2011 to 29 February 2012. Costs for the period from 1 March 2012 to 31 May 2012 are provided in the following table. Costs are GST exclusive unless otherwise indicated.

Agency	Question 1	Question 2	Question 3	Question 4
DIISRTE ¹	\$963,548	\$127,051	\$228,588	Nil
AIATSIS	Nil	Nil	\$37547	Nil
AIMS	\$64,485	Nil	\$14,049	Nil
ANSTO	\$159,000	\$26,886	\$104,155	Nil
ARC	\$13,519	\$25,877	Nil	Nil
ASQA	\$527,308	\$39,690	\$274,369	\$213,249
CSIRO	\$1,664,684	\$15,907	\$266,500	Nil
IP Australia	Nil	\$128,045	\$12,572	Nil
TEQSA ²	N/A*	\$23,211	\$20,424	N/A*

¹ Legal costs for divisions that were transferred from the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations to DIISRTE following the December 2011 Machinery of Government changes are included from 1 May 2012.

² In line with the *Legal Services Directions 2005* and the guidance from the Attorney-General's Department, TEQSA will submit its 'Report on Legal Services Expenditure 2011-12' to the Attorney-General's Department 60 days after the end of the financial year, and TEQSA will publish its total internal and external legal services expenditure in its Annual Report. TEQSA would prefer not to provide answers to Questions 1 and 4 on the basis that it would be an unreasonable diversion of resources to compile the data ahead of TEQSA's (and the Commonwealth's) reporting cycle, particularly given that TEQSA is a new agency and does not have data from the previous financial year to report.