

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

20 October 2011

Question No: SBT 81

Topic: Legal costs

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Bushby asked:

What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

Answer:

Please refer to the ATO's response to SBT 79.

The ATO expects to provide this information in the *Commissioner of Taxation Annual Report 2011-12*.

From 1 July 2011 to 30 September 2011 - Total Legal Services Panel Expenditure

Expenditure on	Total value (Goods and services tax exclusive)
Panel professional fees	\$3,378,490
Panel counsel fees	\$789,252
Panel disbursements	\$904,974
Total	\$5,072,716

Financial Notes

- The ATO has three separate panels for external legal services providers offering Debt Recovery, tax technical and Commercial and General Law types of legal services to the ATO.
- Excludes panel expenditure to Australian Government Solicitors. Detail list of expenditure for Australian Government Solicitors is included in SBT 80.
- Tax Practitioners Board only engage legal panel services from Australian Government Solicitors.