

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing 2012-13
17 October 2012

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

TOPIC: FOI legal issue – lawyers and hours billed

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 17 October 2012, page 37)

QUESTION No.: SI-18

Senator RYAN: What firm were you using for the legal action?

Ms Weston: We are working with Clayton Utz.

Senator RYAN: How many lawyers did you have working on this? Do you know how many lawyers they had? Do you have any in house?

Ms Weston: I am not sure of the exact total. I can certainly take that on notice. We have some in-house lawyers who have been helping us to progress the litigation.

Senator BUSHBY: How many hours? Have you got an account of the number of hours Clayton Utz have billed you for?

Ms Weston: We would have to take that on notice, but I can certainly aim to provide that for you.

ANSWER

As at 31 October 2012, six lawyers from Clayton Utz and two lawyers from the department have worked on this matter.

Clayton Utz has billed 212.5 hours on the matter as at 31 October 2012.