

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2010-2011**

Agency - Australian Building and Construction Commission

DEEWR Question No.EW0676_11

Senator Siewert provided in writing.

Question

ABCC - LAWYER COSTS

What are the total costs incurred through the use of lawyers (internal & external) for ABCC investigations since it began operation? What are the total costs incurred through the use of lawyers for investigations of unions?

Answer

The Office of the Australian Building and Construction Commissioner has provided the following response:

1. Since 1 July 2008, the total costs incurred through the use of lawyers for ABCC investigations is as follows:

Legal Fees	\$6,540,834.80
Counsel Fees	\$3,232,760.10
TOTAL cost	\$9,773,594.90

Internal Lawyers are not separately costed to matters within the ABCC.

2. Since 1 July 2008, the total costs incurred through the use of lawyers for investigations of unions is as follows:
 - \$7,920,239.50