

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2013-2014**

**Agency - Safe Work Australia**

**Department of Employment Question No. EM0479\_14**

**Senator Ludwig provided in writing.**

**Question**

**SWA - Legal Costs**

List all legal costs incurred by the department or agency since 7 September 2013

1. List the total cost for these items, broken down by source of legal advice, hours retained or taken to prepare the advice and the level of counsel used in preparing the advice, whether the advice was internal or external
2. List cost spend briefing Counsel, broken down by hours spend briefing, whether it was direct or indirect briefing, the gender ratio of Counsel, how each Counsel was engaged (departmental, ministerial)
3. How was each piece of advice procured? Detail the method of identifying legal advice

**Answer**

1. Total legal costs incurred by the Agency since 7 September 2013.

<b>Source</b>	<b>Costs</b>
<b>Internal</b>	
Legal costs since 7 September 2013	Costs associated with one in-house full-time principal government lawyer (EL2) and one in-house full-time senior government lawyer (EL1). We estimate only approximately 65 percent of the EL2's work is taken up with legal work, the remainder being policy-related work. A more detailed break-down of our internal legal costs will be provided to the Office of Legal Services Coordination at the end of this financial year when all relevant financial information becomes available.
<b>External</b>	
Legal costs since 7 September 2013	\$990 (Inc GST), 1.5 hours' legal work, partner level, Norton Rose Fulbright No counsel engaged

2. The Agency did not engage Counsel during the reporting period.
3. External legal advice referred to above was procured using the Legal Services Multi-Use List.