

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2005-2006 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: All
Output Group: All

DEST Question No. E240_06

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question:

- (i) Does the Agency have an in-house legal section?
- (ii) If so, what was the 2004/2005 actual cost of this section?
- (iii) What was the budgeted amount for this section in 2004/2005?
- (iv) What is the budget amount for this section in 2005/2006?

Answer:

Expense and budget details for in-house legal section

- (i) Yes.
- (ii) \$2,062,631.00 (amount includes salary plus superannuation, law library, administration, and legal education expenses).
- (iii) Departmental budget data is not available at section level as budgets are issued at the higher Group level. The Procurement, Assurance and Legal Group includes all legal sections, the risk management section and the procurement management section. However, the approximate intra-Group budgeted amount for the legal sections in 2004/2005 was \$2.1 million.
- (iv) The approximate intra-Group budgeted amount for the legal sections in 2005/2006 is \$2.4 million. The budgeted increase is based on bringing more work in-house and not on any expected increase in the volume of legal work required to be done in the Department during 2005/2006.