Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES 2008-09 (February 2009)

PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET PORTFOLIO

Department/Agency: Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman
Outcome/Output Group:
Topic:

Senator: Senator Coonan
Question reference number: 67
Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 April 2009

Number of pages: Two
Answer: 67(a-e)

67(a)
In 2007–08 our office spent the following consultancy fees on:

Area	2007-08 Actual
IT	$ 12,516
Legal	$ 27,429
HR	$ 7,200
Accounting	$ 144,849
Other	$ 203,362
Total	$ 395,357

67(b)
The average cost per hour for each area referred to in 67(a) was:

Area	2007-08 Actual
IT	$ 165
Legal	N/A
HR	N/A
Accounting	N/A
Other	$ 228

N/A = Some consultancies are fixed price contracts. For those consultancies that quoted an hourly or daily rate the average hourly rate excluding GST is shown

67(c)

The office estimates that in 2008–09 it will spend the following on consultancy fees:

Area	2008-09 Estimate
IT	$ 261,700
Legal	$ 17,931
HR	$ 19,844
Accounting	$ 51,128
Other	$ 160,678
Total	$ 511,281

67(d)

The average cost per hour for each area referred to in 67(c) is:

Area	2008-09 Estimate
IT	$ 133
Legal	N/A
HR	N/A
Accounting	N/A
Other	$ 221

N/A = Some consultancies are fixed price contracts. For those consultancies that quoted an hourly or daily rate the average hourly rate excluding GST is shown

67(e)

We estimate that the following will be spent on consultancy fees over the next four years:

Area	2009-10 Estimate	2010-11 Estimate	2011-12 Estimate	2012-13 Estimate
IT	$ 120,000	$ 20,000	$ 20,000	$ 20,000
Legal	$ 17,931	$ 17,931	$ 17,931	$ 17,931
HR	$ 19,844	$ 19,844	$ 19,844	$ 19,844
Accounting	$ 11,128	$ 11,128	$ 11,128	$ 11,128
Other	$ 86,068	$ 186,068	$ 86,068	$ 186,068
Total	$ 254,971	$ 254,971	$ 154,971	$ 254,971

Note: For answers to questions 67(a-e) figures exclude GST