

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES 2010-2011

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department: Finance and Deregulation
Outcome/Program 2/2.1
Topic: Sydney Airport Corporation Limited Litigation

Senator: Fifield

Question reference number: F20

Type of question: Hansard F&PA, 22 February 2011

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 15 April 2011

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator FIFIELD—I have just one more contract question before I yield to a colleague. It regards a contract awarded to a Mr Tom Brennan, who I think is a former principal advisor to Brian Howe, to the value of \$53,000. The CN number is CN364332.

Mr Edge—That contract relates to an engagement for Tom Brennan, who is a Sydney barrister, to review expenditure that the department has incurred in relation to litigation with the New South Wales government on the Sydney Airport stamp duty matter. It is to review the costs of legal services provided to date, costs that the Department of Finance and Deregulation has incurred in conducting that matter; looking at the expenditure which the department has made on legal services.

Senator FIFIELD—What prompted the review?

Mr Tune—I will give you a bit of background about this case....

Senator FIFIELD—What have been the legal costs to date?

Mr Tune—I will have to take that on notice.

Answer:

Legal expenditure by the Commonwealth up to 8 February 2011 was \$9.2million. As reported at page 8-9 of Budget Paper No.1, the amount disputed is estimated to be \$556.9 million.