



Australian Government
Department of Finance and Administration



Reference: 2006 May Estimates Hearings
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Mr Alistair Sands
Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Sands

**Amended Response to Question on Notice - Estimates Hearings
May 2006**

Please find enclosed a compact disk (CD) containing an amended response to written Question on Notice F50 asked at the May 2006 Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration Budget Estimates Hearings.

In preparing a response to a similar written question asked by Senator Joe Ludwig following the Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings on 31 October 2006, we identified an omission in the total expenditure on external legal services. The amended response on the CD highlights, for the Committee's information, the amendment to part (1) of the response.

The effect of this is an increase of approximately \$6 million in the figure for external legal services expenditure for the Department of Finance and Administration for the period 1 July 2005 to 31 May 2006. This omission relates to legal services expenditure in respect of Comcover which was not captured in the previous response. This arose because the expenses have been classified as insurance claims handling on an external contractor's system. Any inconvenience caused to the Committee by this error is regretted.

Should you have any enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact me on 6215 2575.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Hutson
General Manager
Corporate Group

20 March 2007

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Budget Estimates Hearing – May 2006



Question: F50-56

Outcome, Output: All

Topic: Legal Services Expenditure

Written Question on Notice

Senator Ludwig asked:

- (1) What sum did the department or agency spend during 2005-2006 on external legal services (including private firms, the Australian Government Solicitor and any others).
- (2) What sum did the department or agency spend on internal legal services.
- (3) What is the department or agency's projected expenditure on legal services for 2006-2007.

Answer:

(1) & (2)

Finance and Administration Portfolio Legal Services Expenditure - 2005-06		
	External (\$)	Internal (\$)
Department of Finance and Administration (Finance)	12,389,583	1,556,253
Australian Electoral Commission (AEC)	294,895	0
Australian Reward Investment Alliance (ARIA)*	66,829	27,272
Commonwealth Grants Commission (CGC)	26,467	0
Commonwealth Superannuation Administration (ComSuper)	279,079	544,400
Future Fund Management Agency (FFMA)	0	0
	\$13,056,853	\$2,127,925
Total	\$15,184,778	

* Formerly the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme and Public Sector Superannuation Scheme Boards. ARIA commenced on 1 July 2006.

(3)

Finance and Administration Portfolio Legal Services Expenditure - 2006-07	
	Predicted (\$)
Finance	12,751,981
AEC	500,000
ARIA	88,000
CGC	10,000
ComSuper	1,140,500
FFMA	1,500,000
Total	\$15,990,481