

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance and Deregulation
Outcome/Program: General
Topic: Legal Costs

Senator: Ryan
Question reference number: F116
Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 6 July 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- b) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- c) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- d) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

Answer:

The Department of Finance and Deregulation (Finance) reports annually on its legal services expenditure, as required under the *Legal Services Direction 2005*. Finance's legal expenditure for the 2010/2011 financial year is available at <http://www.finance.gov.au/publications/index.html>.

As advised in answer to F103 from the February 2012 Additional Estimates, it would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources to compile data on Finance's current financial year legal spend ahead of the mandated annual reporting.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Australian Electoral Commission

Outcome/Program:

Topic: Legal costs

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: F116

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 6 July 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- b) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- c) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- d) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

Answer:

The Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) reports annually on its legal services expenditure, as required under the *Legal Services Direction 2005*. The AEC's legal expenditure for the 2011/2012 financial year is available at http://www.aec.gov.au/About_AEC/Publications/legal.htm

It would involve an unreasonable diversion of resources to compile data on the AEC's current financial year legal spend ahead of the mandated annual reporting.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Comsuper
Outcome/Program:
Topic: Legal costs

Senator: Ryan
Question reference number: F116
Type of question: Written
Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 6 July 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- b) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- c) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- d) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

Answer:

ComSuper reports annually on its legal services expenditure, as required under the *Legal Services Direction 2005*. ComSuper's legal expenditure for the 2011-12 financial year is available at: http://www.comsuper.gov.au/reports/legal_services.shtml.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation

Outcome/Program:

Topic: Legal costs

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: F116

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 6 July 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- b) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- c) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- d) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

Answer:

It would involve a significant diversion of resources to provide financial year to date figures.

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Future Fund Management Agency

Outcome/Program:

Topic: Legal costs

Senator: Ryan

Question reference number: F116

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 6 July 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- b) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- c) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.
- d) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

Answer:

- a) – d) Please refer to http://www.futurefund.gov.au/about_the_future_fund/mandatory_reporting for disclosures in accordance with the Legal Services Directions.

Reports on legal services expenditure are provided on an annual basis as at 30 June of each year. Compiling this information separately would be an unreasonable diversion of resources.