



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Finance and Administration**



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

Dear Mr Sands *Alistair*

**Responses to Questions on Notice - Supplementary Budget Estimates  
Hearing - October 2006**

Please find enclosed a compact disc (CD) containing the responses to a further 6 Questions on Notice (QONs) asked at the October 2006 Finance and Public Administration Supplementary Budget Estimates hearings. The responses contained on the CD are in respect of questions F81-F86.

In total, 79 of 88 questions have now been answered:

- 16 January 2007 – 12 QONs;
- 25 January 2007 – 38 QONs;
- 2 February 2007 – 14 QONs;
- 7 February 2007 – 1 QON;
- 9 February 2007 – 8 QONs; and
- 21 March 2007 – 6 QONs.

The remaining questions will be provided to the Committee as soon as possible.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Louise Heath on 6215 3041.

Yours sincerely

Ian McAuley  
Branch Manager  
Parliamentary and Corporate Support

21 March 2007

**Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio  
Budget Estimates Hearing – October 2006



**Question: F81-F86**

**Outcome, Output: All**

**Topic: Legal Services Expenditure**

**Written Question on Notice**

**Senator Ludwig asked:**

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

**Answer:**

(1)(a)(b) & (2)

<b>Finance and Administration Portfolio Legal Services Expenditure - 2005-06</b>			
	<b>External (\$)</b>		<b>Internal (\$)</b>
	<b>Barristers</b>	<b>Solicitors</b>	
Department of Finance and Administration (Finance)	1,487,489	11,421,319	1,907,011
Australian Electoral Commission (AEC)	14,000	338,000	0 <sup>1</sup>
Commonwealth Grants Commission (CGC)	0	22,000	0 <sup>1</sup>
Commonwealth Superannuation Administration (ComSuper)	0	1,041,815	544,400
Future Fund Management Agency (FFMA)	0	33,590	0 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,501,489</b>	<b>12,856,724</b>	
Australian Reward Investment Alliance (ARIA)		114,867 <sup>2</sup>	0 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Total</b>		<b>14,473,080</b>	<b>2,451,411</b>

<sup>1</sup>These portfolio agencies do not have internal legal services, except the AEC whose internal Legal Services Section was established in July 2006.

<sup>2</sup> Unable to distinguish between expenditure for barristers and solicitors.

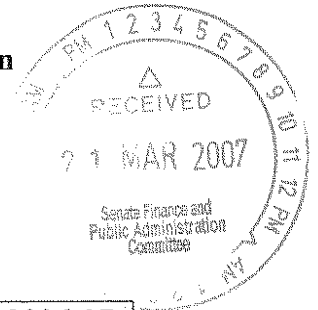
A significant proportion (70 per cent) of Finance's total legal services expenditure is associated with the whole of government functions of Comcover and Asset Sales which account for approximately \$6.5 million and \$3.8 million respectively in the 2005-06 figure.

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Budget Estimates Hearing – October 2006



(3)

<b>Finance and Administration Portfolio Legal Services Expenditure - 2006-07</b>	
	<b>Projected (\$)</b>
Finance	19,705,896
AEC	978,000 <sup>3</sup>
ARIA	102,500
CGC	10,000
ComSuper	1,140,500
FFMA	1,400,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$23,336,896</b>

<sup>3</sup> This comprises expenses associated with the newly established Legal Services Section. These costs include salaries, administrative support and overhead costs for staff who were AEC employees prior to July 2006 who are now part of the Legal Services Section.

A significant proportion (69 per cent) of Finance's total legal services expenditure is associated with the whole of government functions of Comcover and Asset Sales which account for approximately \$8.3 million and \$5.2 million respectively in the 2006-07 projected figure.