

**Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Finance and Administration Portfolio**

**Department of Human Services and Agencies**

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2006-2007, 31 October, 2006

**Question: HS52**

**Outcome 1, Output 2**

**Topic: Child Support Agency – Legal Expenditure**

**Hansard Page/Written Question on Notice: Written**

**SENATOR LUDWIG** asked on 31/10/06:

- (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) During 2005-2006, the Child Support Agency (CSA) spent:
  - (a) \$1,417,542 on external barristers; and
  - (b) \$1,527,505 on external solicitors (including private firms, the Australian Government Solicitor and any others); and
  - (c) \$12,407 on other external legal services
- (2) CSA spent \$1,703,503 on internal legal services.
- (3) CSA's projected expenditure on legal services for 2006-2007 is \$4,000,000.

These figures are exclusive of GST.

To prepare this answer it has taken approximately 6 hours and 6 minutes at an estimated cost of \$320.