

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: HS54

Outcome 1, Output 1.1

Topic: Centrelink – Legal Services Expenditure

Hansard Page/Written Question on Notice: Written

SENATOR LUDWIG asked on 31/10/2006:

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. Centrelink has spent:
 - (a) \$0.197 million (excluding GST)
 - (b) \$4.59 million (excluding GST)
2. The amount spent on internal legal services during 2005-06 was approximately \$179,000.
3. \$7 million.

To prepare this response it has taken 3 hours and 51 minutes at an estimated cost of \$301.