

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Office of National Assessments

Estimates 2006-07 – Supplementary Budget Estimates, October 2006

PM 58

With regard to each agencies (and the department itself) that fall inside the department's portfolio, could the department indicate

- (1) What date the agency's 2005-06 Annual Report was tabled before parliament?

ONA response: ONA only produces a classified annual report which is not tabled before parliament.

PM 66

With regard to the preparation of Possible Parliament Questions briefs or other such documents intended to brief Minister's on an issue specifically for Question Time, could the department/agency provide:

- (1) The number of such briefs prepared in each of the last three financial years (2003-04, 2004-06, 2005-06).

ONA response: ONA does not routinely prepare Possible Parliament Questions (PPQs) or other documents to brief Ministers for Question Time. On occasion ONA provides advice on questions related to ONA or intelligence matters. This advice is provided either to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet for incorporation in its PPQ briefing or direct to the Prime Minister's Office.

- (2) The number of staff who are responsible for coordinating such briefs and the salary level they are engaged at.

ONA response: N/A

- (3) The name of internal unit/team that those staff belong to and a description of its other responsibilities.

ONA response: N/A

- (4) The total budget associated with the unit/team referred to in response to part 3.

ONA response: N/A

PM 74

(1) What sum did the department spend during 2005-2006 on external

(a) barristers and

ONA response: N/A

(b) solicitors (including private firms, the Australian Government Solicitor and any others).

ONA response: \$54,714

(2) What sum did the department spend on internal legal services.

ONA response: Nil

(2) What is the department's projected expenditure on legal services for 2006-2007.

ONA response: \$30,000