

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
2006-07 Supplementary Budget Hearings
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio
Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General

QUESTION: PM69

Senator Ludwig asked:

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, 2004-05, 2005-06).
2. The number of staff who are responsible for coordinating such briefs and the salary level they are engaged at.
3. The name of internal unit/team that those staff belong to and a description of its other responsibilities.
4. The total budget associated with the unit/team referred to in response to part 3.

Response:

- (1) Nil
(2)-(4) not applicable

QUESTION: PM77

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.

Response:

- (1) As advised in the Office's 2005-06 Annual report, the Office spent:
 - (a) barristers - \$nil
 - (b) solicitors - \$40,527.50 (including GST) for legal advice
- (2) \$nil
- (3) The estimate for 2006-07 is \$55,000