

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE12/0119) Program: Internal Product

Senator Humphries asked:

Legal costs: What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private law firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.

Answer:

The legal services rendered during these periods by private firms (excluding AGS) were for legal advice and litigation related services. The following is a breakdown of external legal services by Professional Fees, Counsel and Disbursements.

Current financial year to 31 December 2011

<i>Agency's total Other Firms legal services expenditure</i>	<i>\$million</i>
External expenditure on solicitors ¹	5.013
External expenditure on counsel	0.585
Other disbursements on external legal services	0.739
total external	6.337

¹ As the Department has entered into a 'fixed fee' arrangement for the payment of some of its litigation matters, this figure will also include some expenditure on counsel and disbursements that cannot be separately identified.